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# MGW

MOM... GUESS WHAT! NEWSPAPER

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# World AIDS Day 1997

MGW/Staff

**M**onday, December 1, the tenth annual AIDS Day was commemorated in California, across the United States and in countries around the world. This year's theme brings awareness to the changing face of the epidemic, "Give Children Hope in a World with AIDS. Individuals and organizations are gathering to bring attention to the continuing struggle to battle AIDS.

Here in Sacramento 250 people of all ages attended a candlelight vigil on the steps of the State Capitol and march to the Hyatt Regency where 500 panels of the AIDS Quilt were on display and new panels were dedicated. The rally was attended by Sheila Kuehl, the first openly gay member of the State Legislature, who expressed anger and dismay at the public apathy in the year.

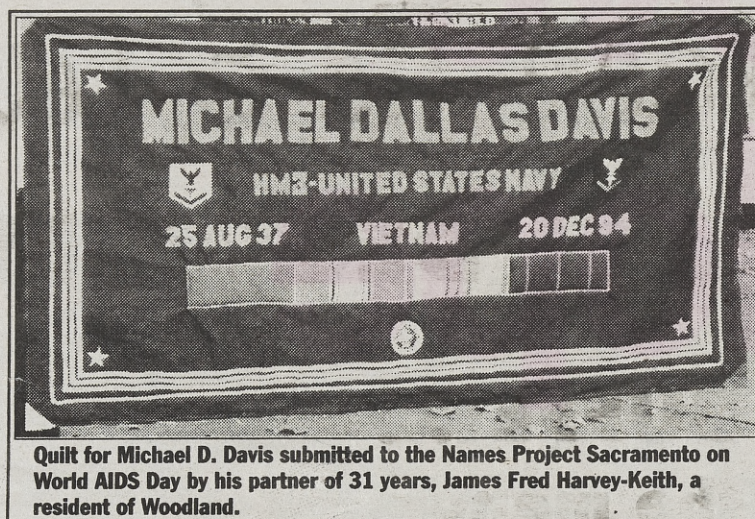
In San Francisco Senator Diane Feinstein, and Mayor Willie Brown led an observance in Golden Gate Park which included music, poetry, dance and prayer. Loved ones and friends who have been touched by AIDS to shared memories and hope for a cure. The San Francisco penny drive collected \$45,000 in change to fund help for those AIDS patients who need help meeting their basic needs. Grace Cathedral hosted a special memorial service and Kaiser Permanente and the University of California held open houses to highlight their efforts in providing HIV / AIDS health care.

In Oakland, a candlelight vigil began at 5pm at the Oakland Federal Building to bring awareness to the importance of funding and legalization of needle exchange. The City of West Hollywood aired a public screening of Buying Time, an original documentary on the state of the AIDS crisis in America. Buying time will continue to be aired through December on the public access channel Citychannel 10.

In New York, American Run for the End of AIDS began it's sixth annual march at Washington Square. Out of Darkness, Night Without Light coincided with

is on local residential facilities for PWA's where the "wish lists" of resident kids are fulfilled.

In Europe, the day was observed with candlelight marches



Quilt for Michael D. Davis submitted to the Names Project Sacramento on World AIDS Day by his partner of 31 years, James Fred Harvey-Keith, a resident of Woodland.

Night Without Light, sponsored by Visual AIDS, during which public buildings dim their lights for fifteen minutes to symbolize all of the lights that have gone out in our lives due to AIDS. The march ended with a 24-hour vigil and memorial reading of names of those who have died of AIDS.

Children in Burlington, VT used colored sheets to express in art and words. Older adolescents and teens worked on essays to express this year's theme. Sponsored by the King Street Youth Center.

Tree of Hope and Remembrance Reading at west Virginia University. Individuals wrote messages regarding someone living with HIV / AIDS or to honor the memory of someone who had died from AIDS. The messages were then formed into a continuing link to decorate the tree. On December 3, a Remembrance reading was held from 10am - 6pm, reading the names of people who have died from AIDS.

The Action Group of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Atlanta held its second annual gift-giving event for children affected by HIV / AIDS. The focus

and song. Thousands marched in Paris at sundown blowing whistles and carrying placards. Elsewhere in Europe, Athens radio stations broadcast programs on AIDS Awareness and state-run television stations aired AIDS documentaries, a concert by Freddie Mercury—lead singer of Queen who died of AIDS in 1991.

In Finland, lawmakers lighted candles on the steps of parliament in Helsinki. Artists performed a free concert in Turku on Finland's west coast with the proceeds donated to the fight against AIDS.

Hundreds gathered in a rain swept Tokyo square to sing and appeal for support and understanding for AIDS patients.

The President and first lady spoke in Washington DC. The first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton expressed concern that drug companies are not responding quickly enough to develop dosages of drugs to be used by infected children. Of the 11 drugs currently approved for treatment of HIV and AIDS only six are approved and formulated for children. ▼

## AIDS Cases on the Rise

**T**he U.S. Agency for International Development released a study of 23 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America which projects that a minimum of 41.6 million children will lose one or both parents to the disease by the year 2010.

According to the United Nations the number of HIV / AIDS cases in on the rise. In a report released in late November the epidemic is worse than previously thought it is believed that in Asia and many third world countries the number of infections is under-reported. Presently there are more than 30 million adults and children living with HIV, nearly 600,000 new infections occurred

among children in 1997. This information contradicts those in the media who believe HIV / AIDS cases are dropping and argue against the money and attention that AIDS has gotten in recent years.

More countries worldwide now have taken HIV / AIDS seriously and have instituted programs on AIDS education, prevention and treatment. In China anti-AIDS messages are being broadcast in the media and on trains.

In California, the University of California Medical Center dedicated a new AIDS Research Institute on December 1. This is a combined effort which will encompass 40 laboratories the

project has an annual budget of \$45 million dollars.

Some news of promising research by UCSF:

- The use of AZT by HIV positive pregnant mothers has kept the transmission rate to the new born at 8% down from 25% to untreated mothers.

- One study shows that some people repeatedly exposed to HIV might have a natural ability to produce infection-fighting white cells, called CD8 lymphocytes. The study only researched 89 people and about one half had the immunologic ability, more studies need to be completed. ▼

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Voice: 916-441-6397  
Fax: 916-441-6422  
E-Mail: info@mgwnews.com  
www.mgwnews.com

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#### STAFF

**Publisher/Editor** L. D. Birner  
**Advertising Manager** Jaede Miloslavich  
jdmilo@mgwnews.com  
pager: 916/328-1990  
**Production Manager** Ron Christ  
**Political Editor** Marghe Covino  
**HIV/AIDS Editor** Sonya Cox  
**Film Editor** Stefan Grunwedel  
**Music Editor** Charles Turner  
**Distribution** Rita Hernandez  
**Legal Counsel** Metrailler & Langenkamp

#### PHOTOGRAPHERS

Carla Brown Mike Grasso  
Pamela Coffey Frank Lawler  
Sam Catalano Charlie Peer  
Mike Cook Michael Roskey  
Kathryn Glaeser Sharon Speller

#### WRITERS

Wayne Anderson Randy Hartley  
John Batchelor Al Kielwasser  
Joseph Hernandez Lou Camera  
Joan B. Guertin David Coles  
Jerry Semas Marghe Covino  
Brenda Shook Sonya Cox  
Mary Valenti Alexis Warner  
Joy Fisher Jennifer Selig  
Jim Fitzpatrick Mary Secor  
Michael Grasso Charles Turner  
Janet Lial Branson

#### OFFICE ASSISTANTS

Liz Miller

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS

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#### AFFILIATIONS

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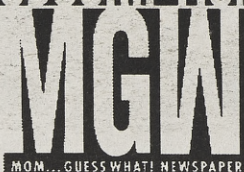
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Lt. Montey Hensley .....	681-2300
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# UNDER THE DOME

## Senators introduce bill to combat Hate Crimes

Senators Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), Edward Kennedy (D-MA), Arlen Specter (R-PA), and Ron Wyden (R-OR) introduced the Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 1997, bi-partisan Legislation that will establish as federal crimes for the first time those hate crimes against, gender, sexual orientation, and disability. The legislation also expands prosecutor's ability to prosecuting racially motivated violence and authorizes more funding for prevention programs and additional law enforcement to assist state and local law enforcement.

"I think there's no question that hate crimes in this nation are increasing," Senator Feinstein said. "I can remember when a young man, who happened to be Asian, came home from work and was beaten to death on a freeway in the East Bay. The recent church burning in the Southern United States really bought this issue home to many Americans. These and many other similar incidents against people simply because of their race, gender, sexual orientation or disability make you wonder where we are going as a nation. This legislation is important because it will provide additional tools to help law enforcement prosecute, investigate and hopefully prevent these despicable crimes."

The Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 1997 will:

- ◆ Expand federal prosecutors' ability to prosecute racially motivated violence by removing unnecessary and onerous jurisdictional requirements.
- ◆ Make hate crimes against gays and lesbians, gender, and the disabled a federal crime for the first times.
- ◆ Attack growing problem of adults who recruit juveniles to commit hate crimes by directing the Sentencing Commission to implement appropriate penalty increases.
- ◆ Authorize additional funding for prevention programs specifically targeted at hate crimes.
- ◆ Authorize additional law enforcement personnel to assist state and local officials in the investigation of hate crimes. ▼

## Get our faces known... Vacancies County of Sacramento

The following commissions and committees have vacancies as listed below. Applications are available at all public libraries and the office of Cindy H. Turner, Clerk, Board of Supervisors. This list may be accessed through the Sacramento County Bulletin Board Systems (BBS) by dialing 441-0122 or 441-1135, and at Internet address: <http://www.co.sacramento.ca.us>.

Commission/Committee	Opens/Closes	Type of Member
Adult & Aging Commission	Open Filing	8 public members
Advisory Board on Alcohol & Drug Programs	Open Filing	10 public members
Agricultural Advisory Committee	Open Filing	3 farming/livestock reps.
Agricultural Advisory Committee	Open Filing	2 member seats
Antelope Comm. Planning Advisory Council	1/26/98 - 2/6/98	3 residents of area (nom by 4th District Supervisor)
Antelope Comm. Planning Advisory Council	Open Filing	1 residents of area (nom by 4th District Supervisor)
Arden-Arcade Comm. Planning Advisory Coun	Open Filing	4 resident of area
Assessment Appeals Board	Open Filing	1 member seat
Board of Plumbing Examiners	1/26/98 - 2/6/98	1 Union journeyman
Building Board of Appeals	Open Filing	1 plumbing contractor
Building Board of Appeals	Open Filing	1 mechanical contractor
Building Board of Appeals	Open Filing	1 general public
Building Board of Appeals	Open Filing	1 attorney
Building Board of Appeals	Open Filing	1 architect
Building Board of Appeals	Open Filing	1 civil/structural engineer
Building Board of Appeals	Open Filing	1 electrical contractor
Building Board of Appeals	Open Filing	1 gen/comm. Contractor
Building Board of Appeals	Open Filing	1 residential contractor
Building Board of Appeals	Open Filing	1 mechanical engineer
Building Board of Appeals	Open Filing	1 utility rep
Carmichael Community Planning	Open Filing	3 resident of area (nom by Adv. Council 3rd Dist. Sup)
Children's Coalition	Open Filing	1 religious community member
Cordova Comm. Planning Advisory Council	Open Filing	1 resident of area (nom by 4th & 5th Dist. Supervisors)
Consumers Area Community Planning Advisory Council	Open Filing	5 residents of area
County Service Area #4B	Open Filing	2 residents of area
County Service Area #4C	Open Filing	3 residents of area
County Service Area #4D- Herald/Alta Mesa	Open Filing	4 residents of area
Delta Citizens Municipal Advisory Council	Open Filing	1 residents of area (nom by 5th Dist. Supervisor)
Developmental Disabilities Area Planning Bd. III	Open Filing	1 member seat
Developmental Disabilities Planning & Advisory Council	Open Filing	6 member seat
Florin-Elder Creek Cemetery Dist.	Open Filing	1 resident mon by 2nd & 3rd Dist. Supervisors)
Franklin/Laguna Area Community	Open Filing	2 residents of area (nom by 2nd & 3rd Dist. Supervisor)
Advisory Council	Open Filing	2 member at-large seats
Human Services Coordinating Council	Open Filing	1 consumer/adolescent
Maternal, Child & Adolescent Health Advisory Board	Open Filing	4 residents of area (nom by Sups. Of Dist. 1, 3 & 4)
North Highland/Foothill Farms	Open Filing	4 residents of area (nom by Sups. of Dist. 1, 3 & 4)
Community Planning Advisory Council	Open Filing	2 residents of area (nom by Sups. of Dist. 1, 3 & 4)
North Highlands/Foothill Farms	Open Filing	2 residents of area (nom by Sups. of Dist. 1, 3 & 4)
Community Planning Advisory Council	Open Filing	1 physically handicapped seat
Physically Handicapped Appeals Bd.	1/26/98 - 2/6/98	3 community members
Public Health Advisory Bd.	Open Filing	1 public health professional seat
Recreation and Parks Commission	Open Filing	1 public health/health seat
Sacramento County History/ Science Comm	Open Filing	1 area resident
Sacramento County Employees Retirement Board	1/26/98 - 2/6/98	1 seat (nom by Dist. 1 Supervisor)
Sacramento County Mental Health Board	Open Filing	1 public member
Sac. Environmental Commission	Open Filing	1 family members
South Sacramento Area Comm. Planning Advisory Cmte.	Open Filing	2 consumer
South Sacramento Area Comm. Planning Advisory Cmte.	Open Filing	1 public interest
South Sacramento Area Comm. Planning Advisory Cmte.	Open Filing	1 member
Vineyard Area Community Planning Advisory Committee	Open Filing	5 residents of area
Vineyard Area Community Planning Advisory Committee	Open Filing	5 residents of area (noms by Supervisor of Dist. 5)



## Tony Great Tie!!

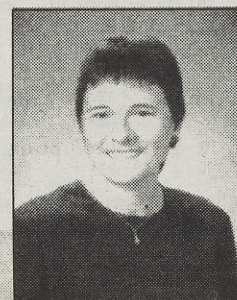
Pete Pavey, Tony Miller, candidate for Lieutenant Governor; with Michael Yahner, Eric Jensen and Ted Ross at Randy's Hartley House Bed and Breakfast Inn where Randy hosted a campaign fundraiser for Tony Miller.

**TONY MILLER**

For Lieutenant Governor '98

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## 35 Gay Candidates Win in Elections

Nearly half of the openly gay candidates were winners in 35 local elections held around the nation November 4. Ohio welcomed its first openly lesbian and gay elected officials, including Louis Escobar as Toledo City Council member and Mary Wiseman as Dayton City Commissioner. The New York City Council has two firsts, Margarita Lopez as the first openly lesbian Puerto Rican to win an election for U.S. public office, and Phil Reed became the first openly gay African American on the city council. "Ten years ago, most gay people wouldn't even think they could run for office and be open," said Victory Fund Deputy Director Kathleen DeBold. "The more openly gay people who run for office, the more that kind of visibility breaks down stereotypes... Voters see that good government has nothing to do with sexual orientation [but] good leaders." ▼



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# COMMENTARY

## Hate In The Heartland

by Kerry Lobel

I traveled the middle of the country to discuss the state of violence directed against gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people. These town meetings took me to seven cities in three weeks for a series of forums on hate crimes. From Wichita and Lawrence, Kansas to Nashville, Tennessee to Oklahoma City and Tulsa, Oklahoma to Little Rock, Arkansas and to Detroit, Michigan, dozens of 'LGBT' activists and allies gathered to tell stories of hate crimes and stories of survival.

Every town shared similar themes. As 'LGBT' and questioning youth come to visibility, their school districts have been ill-equipped to counsel them or ensure their safety. As communities become more organized and open, violence is still never far from our lives.

In Oklahoma City, fourteen-year Eli told the story of daily harassment that had led him to drop out of school. Now in an alternative school, this new principal told him that he'll be fine as long as he acts "normal." His hope comes from his association with a youth group that provides comfort and offers strategies for survival.

In Little Rock, Carolyn Wagner told the story of her son's abuse at the hands of schoolmates and an indifferent school administration. Her son is now being schooled at home, but the school district just recently changed its policy to make more options available to young victims of hate crimes.

Emporia State University and University of Tulsa students have organized a campus organization for 'LGBT' students. Safety zone stickers mark the offices of faculty, staff, and the student newspaper. In trouble? Offices that bear the stickers provide safe haven and counsel.

Some 'LGBT' people don't feel that they can count on the police to investigate and report hate crimes or city prosecutors to change the crime to the fullest extent allowed by law. Police and prosecutors are often under trained about hate crimes.

In Tulsa, two men were brutally victimized by three attackers. Their injuries required stitches and one man had his arm broken. While the police were quick to respond, city prosecutors filed the case as a simple misdemeanor. Local attorneys are attempting to intervene.

In Lawrence, an egg was thrown at a woman standing in front of a gay club. She was called a dyke by her attacker. Police on the scene recorded the incident, but not as a hate crime because there was "not enough evidence." The police Chief has asked for help getting training for his department.

In every town, nearly every participant had been either the victim of a hate crime or knew someone that had. Yet the number of documented hate crimes is woefully low. Police and prosecutors are under trained and community members feel unsafe about reporting hate crimes to them. All too often, victims who spoke at these meetings blamed themselves for the crime or felt that others in our community would judge them for being in the wrong place at the wrong time. Fortunately, community centers, anti-violence projects and other community organizations have stepped up to provide safety education as well as resources to victims of hate crimes.

Hate crime laws provide some of our country's best hopes for coalition building across race, national origin, religion, gender and sexual orientation. Yet, each state on our tour lacked a hate crime law altogether or one that includes sexual orientation.

Half-way through the trip, I found myself standing on the site of the Oklahoma City bombing.

The city-block is level now and surrounded by a tall chain link fence. The fence is lined with stuffed animals, poignant notes, and t-shirts and license plates bearing tributes from around the country. It is a monument that pays respect to lives lost as well as one that is filled with hope and courage. What touched me were the oaths, many from children, describing their pledges to work for a better world.

We've each seen the price our society has paid for hatred. And it's time for each of us to commit ourselves to a world that values safety and respects difference. For those in states without any hate crime laws or laws that do not include sexual orientation, we must work to pass inclusive hate crime laws. For those in states that have hate crime laws we must engage in the political process, we must continue to work for change so that these laws remain meaningful. ▼

# UNDER THE DOME

## Air Force Issues Anti-Discrimination Policy

**Guidelines Reiterate "Zero Tolerance" for Any Unlawful Discrimination**

In one of her last acts as Secretary of the Air Force, Sheila Widnall issued an anti-discrimination policy, stating for the first time in writing that the United States Air Force would not discriminate against civilian employees based on sexual orientation, the Human Rights Campaign announced.

On Oct. 29, Widnall issued a memorandum reiterating the Air Force's equal opportunity policies, which she called "straight forward" "zero tolerance for any kind of unlawful discrimination against military members or civilian employees based on color, national origin, race, religion or sex, and in the case of civilian employees, also age, sexual orientation or disabling conditions."

Widnall retired from the Air Force at the end of October. She issued this written policy as one of her final acts as Secretary of the Air Force.

The Navy has also established a similar statement in writing that it will not discriminate against civilian employees based on sexual orientation.

In 1993, President Clinton interpreted an executive order issued by then-President Carter as protecting all federal workers from job discrimination based on sexual orientation. He instructed all Cabinet-level agencies to amend their non-discrimination policies to explicitly add sexual orientation. ▼

## Amnesty To Consider Adding Sexual Orientation

At its upcoming International Council Meeting (ICM) in Capetown December 12-19, Amnesty International (AI) will decide after twenty years of debate whether to include sexual orientation in its mandate. Additional resolutions for consideration are the integration of its work on human rights against homosexuals into AI's research, campaign, action, and publications; and AI's support for a meeting of the AI networks of members for gay and lesbian concerns.

After a long public campaign that lasted over a decade and a half, the 1991 Yokohama ICM agreed to interpret AI's mandate to include sexual orientation; the mandate itself, however, was not changed. Four years later, the 1995 Ljubljana ICM designated AI's work on sexual orientation as low-priority in its four-year Action Plan.

"These resolutions may sound bureaucratic to the lay person, but they are absolutely crucial to the gay man or lesbian who is at risk of persecution," explained Sydney Levy, Program Director for the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC). "The inclusion of sexual orientation in AI's mandate, while mostly symbolic, will send the message that AI takes these issues seriously."

"The integration of AI's work on homosexuality into all aspects of AI's work is probably the more important resolution in terms of AI's capacity to do more work on these abuses," stated IGLHRC's Executive Director Julie Dorf. "We have been working closely with Amnesty for years, and there has been significant progress, but we know that there is more work on human rights abuses based on sexual orientation than they have addressed. We call on Amnesty to adopt all these important resolutions."

The International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC) documents, monitors, and mobilizes response to human rights violations against LGBT people. ▼

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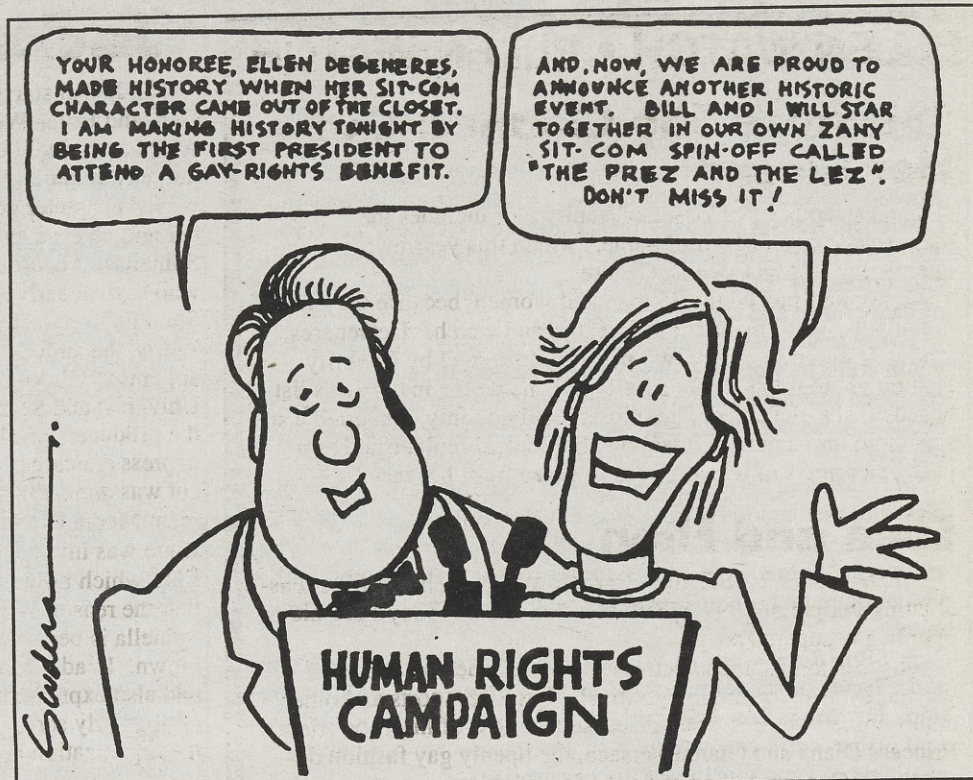
# MEDIA WATCH

## USA Today Pokes Around TV's Gay Male Kissing Closet

The USA Today featured an article by Kevin Gray about the reasons that while Ellen and other shows have featured women kissing, gay men can not seem to get to first base on network TV. "Men have kissed on the small screen, but usually in the service of a big laugh, with a horrified straight man on the receiving end. TV has yet to depict a gay male romance with the kind of emotional force and genuine intimacy granted the fictitious Ellen Morgan," Gray writes. Spin City's Michael Boatman says "it's threatening to the male psyche," while Rhona Berenstein, director of film studies at the University of California, adds, "Male viewers can't handle it. We still live in a culture where it's taboo for men to be physical and affectionate." Gray also notes that, "Movies have more readily tackled gay relationships, from The Birdcage to In & Out. But that's because the longer format of film allows character development, Berenstein says. Television, with its 22-minute episodes, 'is all about surfaces,' she says. 'Everybody becomes a

stereotype on TV.' Still, TV has outpaced film in its sheer variety of gay characters, if only because of economics. Movies costs tens of millions to make. One flop means a big loss. But TV can weave gays in and out, at most risking the loss of an advertiser for a couple of weeks." "The sheer numbers of characters television can allow may not bring gay male kisses into America's living rooms anytime soon," Gray says, but "gay advocates appreciate that Ellen makes it OK to be gay and praise the well-rounded portrayals of gays on TV."

"With the number of gay characters rising, we're getting more diversity, which is important because the gay community is so diverse," says Chastity Bono, GLAAD entertainment director. "USA Today and Kevin Gray should be commended for examining the hurdles society still faces towards allowing gay men the same representations of love and intimacy that network television affords heterosexuals or even lesbians." ▼



REPRINTED FROM THE WASHINGTON BLADE

## Chicago Tribune Slaps "Silliness in the Senate"

A Chicago Tribune editorial entitled, "More Silliness in the Senate" rolls its eyes at two senators' blockade of the appointment of openly gay philanthropist James Hormel to be the U.S. Ambassador to Luxembourg. "Luxembourg is one of the world's smallest nations, and the U.S. ambassador there is one of the least demanding postings in the foreign service. If anything James Hormel, a businessman, lawyer and philanthropist, would seem overqualified for the assignment," it begins.

"But Hormel's nomination has been put on hold because he is openly gay and an activist for homosexual causes...The basic issue is this: It is unfair and counterproductive to judge nominees for government office exclusively on the basis of their sexual orientation. The government would be deprived of the talent, dedication and energy of too many people." After listing many of Hormel's impressive accomplishments, the Tribune sums up, "Surely that background qualifies him to be envoy to a sleepy little country. If there are no objections beyond his homosexuality, Hormel should get the job." ▼

## Washington Post "Gay Chic" Mired in Misconceptions

A Washington Post story entitled "Gay Chic" raises many interesting questions about the "normalization" of gay and lesbian life in America, but ultimately rests on some major false assumptions. "Less than a generation ago, when baby boomers were teens, homosexuals lived furtive and frightened lives as social outcasts and sexual criminals. They were hassled and hauled in by the cops, depicted in the mainstream press as perverts and sickos, purged from the government as security risks and precariously situated in the private economy," writer Richard Harwood says.

[Today] "there are no ripples or gasps when politicians, businessmen, celebrities and athletes come out of the closet. Gay studies is taught in many of our schools, and provides material for welcoming sermons from the pulpit. Gays hold seats in Congress...The media, once vigilantes in anti-homo-

sexual campaigns, have switched sides during the past decade or so. News organizations now root out and expose homophobes, crusade for tolerance and gay-rights laws and recruit gay journalists. The television networks routinely depict gays in a sympathetic light. Demographers have known for years that American homosexuals on the whole are a very affluent slice of the population... The average income for gay and lesbian households is estimated at more than \$55,000 a year, compared with about \$40,000 a year for households in the general population."

The story paints a curious and false picture of the political and cultural landscapes faced by lesbian and gay Americans today. Phenomenal progress has been made by gay Americans towards full inclusion in society. But there is a long, hard road ahead, and Harwood dismisses just how far there is to go. No gay or lesbian

politician can run a campaign without facing extreme bias from detractors merely on the grounds of their sexual orientation.

Only a handful of athletes have come out, fearful of the very real hardships that openly gay athletes can face. Celebrities coming out are still so rare that someone like Ellen DeGeneres announcing they are gay is exceptional enough to warrant the cover of Time.

The media, which has made significant progress towards fair, accurate and inclusive treatment of gay people, still routinely misrepresents them as well, most notably seen in the way that the media covered the Andrew Cunanan story, as well as the fact that simple hand-holding among lesbians warrants a "parental advisory warning" from ABC while even sex between heterosexuals does not face nearly the same scrutiny.

Harwood relies on marketing studies bent on proving the profitability of a "gay market" and geared toward documenting wealthy, primarily white, primarily male gay people when determining the "average income for lesbian and gay couples." More fully representative studies of the economic state of lesbians and gay men, such as University of Maryland, College Park, economist Lee Badgett's recent survey indicates that lesbian and bisexual women earn less than straight women and that gay men tend to earn less than heterosexual men.

The oversimplification of the struggles and obstacles that face gay people hampers the efforts to find equal and fair treatment for them. ▼

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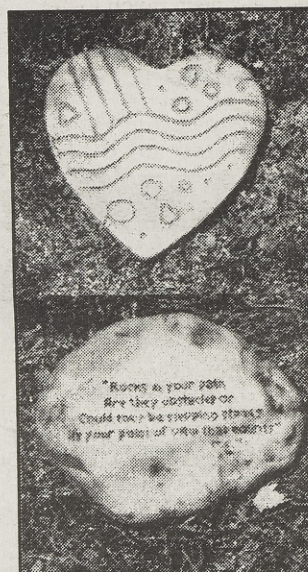
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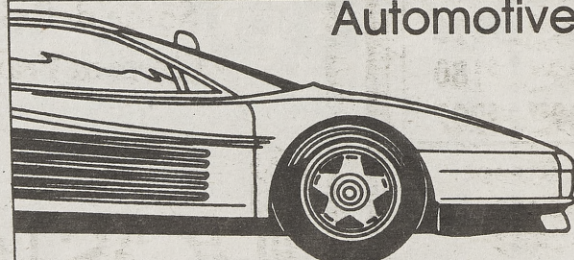
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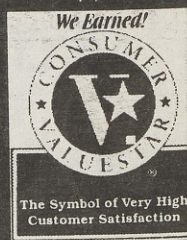
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## ELLEN WATCH • ELLEN WATCH

### "Because She Cleaned Out Her Closet"

The December 1997 issue of Vanity Fair includes the magazine's annual "Hall of Fame," which this year includes openly gay actress Ellen DeGeneres.

Vanity Fair picked the 35 men and women, because they were "standouts [who] made the world stop and watch." DeGeneres, who is featured in a sexy two-page photo spread by celebrity fashion photographer Annie Leibovitz, made the magazine's list because "she cleaned out her closet...and not only converted a so-so sitcom into a national fishbowl but looked replenished as a performer-years of tension were released from her face."

### Ellen and Elton

On December 2 ABC aired Barbara Walters' The 10 Most Fascinating People of 1997, which featured two of today's premiere openly gay superstars.

Singer Elton John and actress Ellen DeGeneres were interviewed by Walters, among political, scientific, sports and other entertainment figures. John discussed the loss of his good friends Princess Diana and Gianni Versace, the openly gay fashion designer. DeGeneres talked of her history making year as television's first and only lesbian or gay lead character and her own coming out process.

Columnist Liz Smith reports that DeGeneres, "there are kids that are beaten up, killed, who commit suicide because they're gay, and that happens from thinking there is something wrong with it. I am becoming a bit more of an activist."

Walters made an unprecedented move by choosing two open and high-profile members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. Let us know what you thought of the show.

## Smart Magazine, Foolish Advice

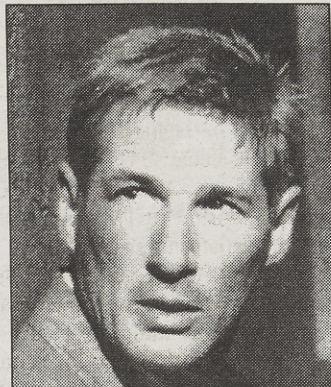
In the November issue of Ebony Magazine, the "Ebony Advisor" answers a question from a woman concerned about HIV by trotting out inaccurate information about bisexuals. The woman, who identifies herself as 23 years old, states that a "little voice inside me is telling me I have AIDS.[...] My life would be over and everything I've worked for would be a waste." The Advisor tells the woman to seek counseling, and says there's no reason for her to think she may be HIV positive if she has not engaged in risk behavior, "including unprotected sex with partners who are high risk, such as ...bisexuals." The Advisor then goes on to suggest the woman be tested and do some research on transmission.

The continuing stereotypes and lack of information around bisexuality obviously got the best Ebony Advisor. Instead of taking the time to educate this woman about condom use and safer sex, the Advisor thinks its responsibility and promulgates the misguided and hurtful belief that bisexual men are somehow more "risky" than others. This is even more alarming when viewed in light of Ebony's past record on lesbian and gay issues, which has been quite good.

Ebony should know that subscribing to myths about bisexuals helps no one, and hurts many. ▼

## "Jackal" Filmmakers Edit Scene

The Jackal starring Richard Gere and Bruce Willis, features Willis as a villain who can blend into any situation. At one point, Willis' character goes into a gay bar and meets a gay man (Steven Spinella). According to sources who saw an early screening, when Spinella's character was shot by Willis, the audience reacted with applause. GLAAD approached Universal and Sean Daniel, one of the producers of The Jackal, to express concerns. When the final cut was done, GLAAD Entertainment Media Directory Chastity Bono was invited to preview the film, which now explicitly shows that the reason Willis shoots Spinella is because his cover is blown. In addition, Richard Gere had also expressed concerns after seeing early screenings and told the organization he was very



Richard Gere

happy the problem had been resolved prior to release. "All involved were appalled by the possibility that the audience could burst into applause because of the death of a gay man. It is very black-and-white now," said Bono. "The way that Universal has edited the film after audience reac-

tion makes it explicit that the motivation for the gay man being killed has nothing to do with his sexual orientation."

"We applaud Universal and the producers of The Jackal for their willingness to listen and their eagerness to ensure that representations of lesbians and gay men are fair and accurate," Bono said. ▼

## D P Benefits Good Business

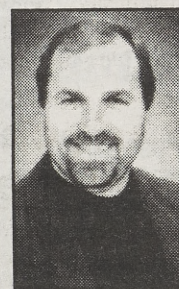
The November issue of Entrepreneur magazine featured a good brass-tacks discussion of domestic partnership policies as good business. "When the Walt Disney Co. began offering benefits to the domestic partners of its homosexual employees, it came under fire from many conservative groups. But few companies get that kind of attention for making an internal policy decision—in fact, most businesses implement domestic partner benefit programs without so much as a public ripple," it begins. It gives a number of tips, such as "Determine who will be eligible," "Decide on the proof required to show that a committed relationship exists," and "Research and explain the costs." It adds that, "Companies have viewed domestic partner benefits as an important tool in employee retention and maintaining a positive corporate image...Utilization of domestic partner insurance coverage has been much lower

than anticipation's, probably because working domestic partners tend to get health insurance through their own employers."

Please comment Entrepreneur for matter-of-factly explaining the ins and outs of domestic partnership and sticking to facts instead of anti-gay fictions. Contact: Rieva Lesonsky, Editor in Chief, Entrepreneur, P. O. Box 57050, Irvine, CA 92619-7050, fax: 714-261-4211, e-mail: entmag@entrepreneurmag.com. ▼

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# NATIONAL NEWS

## Same Gender Harassment Argued

On December 3, the Supreme Court discussed whether federal civil rights law covers on-the-job sexual harassment by men against men or by women against women.

After the oral arguments ended, the justices appeared ready to rule that sexual harassment in the workplace can sometimes be illegal when the alleged harasser and the victim are of the same sex.

The justices expressed divergent views over such questions as how to prove same-sex harassment, how to tell the difference between male horseplay and harassment, whether there could

ever be gender discrimination in all-male or all-female workplace, and whether a bisexual employee who equally harasses both sexes violates the law.

The high court is being asked to decide only whether the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals was wrong in ruling that federal law simply doesn't cover same-sex harassment.

"I don't see how we could possibly sustain the ruling," said Chief Justice William Rehnquist. At least five other justices expressed a similar sentiment.

One of them, Stephen Breyer, said, "A Jew could discriminate against a Jew, an African American against an African American, an Italian against an Italian. Why isn't it possible that a homosexual... couldn't discriminate?"

The court's ruling, expected by July, could have a major impact on businesses. If the justices allow same-sex suits, lower courts still would have to grapple with what exactly constitutes harass-

ment and how the law should be enforced. Other appeals courts have said the law prohibits same-sex harassment.

The appeals court in Richmond, Va., has added another wrinkle, ruling that a man who is sexually harassed by a homosexual supervisor can sue under Title VII.

At the core of the dispute is title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which says that it is "an unlawful employment practice to discriminate against any individual because of sex." Although the law doesn't mention sexual harassment, the Supreme Court ruled 10 years ago that unwelcome sexual conduct or remarks, if severe or pervasive enough to create a hostile work environment, violate federal anti-discrimination law. The law has never specifically applied that principle to single-gender situations.

The issue came to the court in an appeal by Joseph Oncale, who said he was repeatedly subjected to sexual touching and even threatened with rape by three male co-workers on an oil-drilling rig off the Louisiana coast in 1991.

Oncale sued the three men and the employer, Sundowner Off-shore Services. The defendants denied any harassment and portrayed the incidents as hazing or horseplay. A federal appeals court, in New Orleans, threw out the suit, saying the Civil Rights Act doesn't apply to single-gender harassment. ▼

## Santa Went South

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ISSUE #214 • November 27, 1997 • VOLUME 9 • NUMBER 6 • \$1.95 USA • \$2.95 CANADA

Do you Remember Sacramento's own Santa Claus, Rob Thorbin, with Alladin Travel? He and his reindeer moved to Phoenix, Arizona several years ago. On the cover of **ECHO Magazine** he is helping collect food for the **Food for Thought Holiday Food Drive** in Arizona.

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## Holidays are The Best!

By Randy Hartley  
MGW/Staff

Holidays shine brightly-Hanukkah Menorahs, Christmas Trees and sparkling Champagne lighting our way to the New Year. Holidays are occasions that join old friends, new friends and family, bringing us together to share traditions, good times and, of course good food. As holidays anchor our lives so does what we cook and eat for those celebrations connect us to them over the years.

### HANUKKAH

Among Jewish holidays, Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights, is one of the happiest. Commemorating the defeat of Antiochus of Syria by the Maccabees over two thousand years ago, it also celebrates the miracle of the synagogue lamps, which burned for eight days and nights on a one-day's supply of oil.

The menorah, one new candle of which is lit each night of the eight-day holiday, symbolizes the miracle, as does the tradition of serving the potato pancakes called latkes and dessert fritters.

### CHRISTMAS

Christmas is such a jam-packed holiday that it can seem like a

year's worth of good times, all rolled up in about two dazzling weeks. Sacred and secular, solemn and merry, it is the ultimate celebration, a glittering whirlwind of parties and meals, large and small.

A happy and sometimes slightly exhausted glow of satisfaction is the mark of a successful host, one who has entertained with style and grace, sharing the good time with loved ones and friends while loving it all. In merry old England there is the traditional Christmas Goose. Here we prefer a standing rib roast, turkey or ham.

My favorite is a Standing Prime Rib Roast and I have provided a recipe.



### NEW YEARS EVE

Year's end is a mystical time, loaded with significance. Pegged to the very rotation of the planet around the sun, New Year's can hardly be dismissed as just another excuse to party. As the solar system turns silently, some sort of celebration seems inevitable and human. If it has been a good year, we naturally want to send it off in style; if not so good, we also dance and laugh to forget the old and mightily hope for better in the new. New Year's can be spent in a solitary and contemplative way, but most of the time, counting down the start of the 365 unknown days ahead we prefer to take strength in numbers.

As midnight strikes another year of great parties begins! Best wishes for happy holidays! ▼

## Standing Prime Rib Roast

6 TO 8 servings

1 cup flour  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon freshly ground pepper  
1 tablespoon paprika  
4 minced garlic cloves  
1 - 3 or 4 rib roast, trimmed of excess fat; feather bone and ribs loosened and tied in place (you can purchased one already trimmed or ask your butcher to help with the preparation before roasting)

Preheat oven to 325° F. Combine flour, salt, pepper, paprika and garlic. Rub roast completely with this mixture. Place roast fat-side up in shallow roasting pan. A rack is not necessary since bones form natural rack. Insert meat thermometer into the thickest part of roast, making sure tip does not touch bone.

To determine roasting time:

**Very rare** - 15-17 minutes per lb. or 130° on thermometer.  
**Med. rare** - 18-20 minutes per lb. or 150° on thermometer.  
**Well done** - 22-28 minutes per lb. or 165° on thermometer.

When desired doneness is reached, turn heat off, leave oven door ajar and allow meat to rest 20 minutes, or if oven is needed for another purpose, remove roast and let stand in a warm place near the oven. (This makes carving easier, and fewer juices will run out onto the platter so the meat will be more succulent.) Cut strings, and serve with Horseradish Sauce.

**Note:** For really rare, try allowing 15 minutes per pound.

Garlic Mashed Potato's, a green vegetable and Yorkshire Pudding would be perfect accompaniments.

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## Sacramento's "Barber" a Hit

Wayne R. Anderson  
MGW/Staff

The Sacramento Opera seems to shine its brightest with comedies, and this fall's production of Rossini's "Il Barbiere di Siviglia" continued the trend. I recall their 1983 production of this opera as being captivating, and the new production lived up to the tradition. Although the 1816 premiere was a fiasco, the opera immediately gained an admiring audience which it has never lost. And no wonder! The work is filled with an array of inventive unforgettable melodies set to a top-rate libretto.

Unlike many operas, the "Barber" is a true ensemble work, not a show piece for one or two big stars. The SOA realized this and cast nearly every role with a strong singing-actor. The opera centers around Figaro, Seville's ubiquitous barber. Dennis Jesse made him a young, inventive,

exuberant, and handsome man at the height of his powers. His meaty tenorish baritone seemed ideal for the role, and uninhibited acting brought life to the stage. The famous "Largo al factotum" drew appreciative applause. The luscious yet agile voice of Lyne Comtois fit Rosina's music perfectly, and her unforced acting rounded out the character. It was good to see this role cast in the original mezzo-soprano key, which enhances the earthy sexiness of the girl. Robert Tate as Count Almaviva was the one letdown. His tenor was not well-equalized or secure, at times sounding like a strained whistle, but he did improve after his two first-act arias. Committed acting made us overlook vocal short comings.

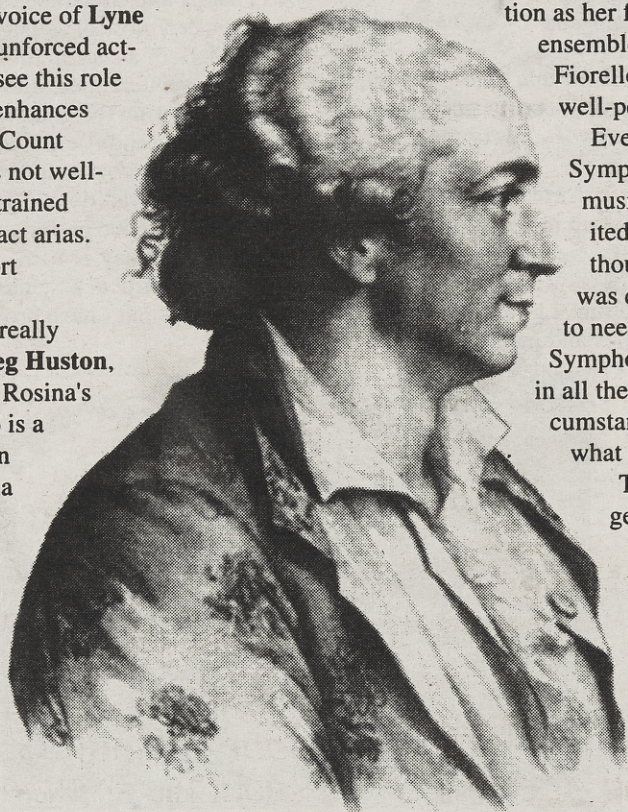
The "secondary" (no roles in this opera are really secondary) were extremely well-cast. Bass Reg Huston, seen here in innumerable roles, was perfect as Rosina's guardian-suitor Dr. Bartolo. Although Bartolo is a buffo character, Huston brought enough human touches to him to make the man interesting as a person. And he sang the role effortlessly. As Bartolo's co-conspirator, the music master Don Basilio, Philip Cokorinos sang with a huge cavernous bass. He missed no chance to show the scheming character of Basilio, yet never overdid it. In the famous slander aria "La calunnia," he worked himself up into a frenzy with the thought of destroying the Count's reputation, and seemed dis-

gusted when Bartolo dismissed his suggestion. A real surprise came from Janet Steen Campbell as Bartolo's servant Berta. In what is often a small throw-away role, she made a strong contribution as her fine voice carried easily over the ensemble. Aram Barsamian was an engaging Fiorello, and the other minor roles were all well-performed.

Ever since the demise of the Sacramento Symphony, the SOA has had to hire qualified musicians as they can find them from a limited pool. The results showed here. Although the playing was not actually bad, it was certainly not top-rate either and seemed to need more rehearsal. Fallout from the Symphony's disappearance continues to be felt in all the musical arts of this city. Under the circumstances, conductor Monroe Kanouse did what he could.

The realistic sets and costumes were gorgeous, and applause swept through the house as each curtain revealed a new scene. The opera was performed in three acts, rather than two, probably due to the exigencies of set changes.

February brings the company's first foray into Wagner, "The Flying Dutchman."



### Pierre-Augustin Caron de Beaumarchais (1732-99)

French playwright, polemicist, spy and arms dealer. The son of a watchmaker, he invented a revolutionary new mechanism and taught harp and guitar the four daughters of Louis XV. His title de Beaumarchais came from one of the properties of his first wife, a rich widow, who died ten months after the marriage. His first literary attempts were less than successful. When his protector and mentor in the world of finance left him a fortune which was contested in court by the heirs he spent much of his life either in court or in prison. He vented his anger in his *Memoires conte Goetzman*, becoming an overnight success. *Le Barbier de Seville* reached the stage in 1775, and the scheming servant Figaro became a folk hero. This was followed by *Le Mariage of de Figaro* in 1784. His last Figaro appeared in *L'Autre Tartuffe, ou La Mere Coupable* in 1792 and was a failure. Today Beaumarchais is noted for his satire and his love of life.



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## Take Them to the Opera!

According to stereotypes, we gays --- at least the guys --- all worship opera. Yet I have heard disturbing rumors that there actually are gay people who do not even like it. If you are unlucky enough to find yourself attached to such a person and want to convert them, what do you do?

First of all, forget recordings. Take them to the real thing! Nothing else compares to opera in the flesh. But select the work carefully; match it to the person. An ill-chosen opera could send them fleeing to the cocktail bar, never to return. Here are some suggestions:

**FOR A ROMANTIC TYPE:** There's so much to choose from! Try "La Boheme" or "La Traviata." Who can resist a soprano dying of TB (very fashionable in the 19th century) while the tenor weeps over her body? If you a germ freak, try "Manon Lescaut" --- same ending, sans disease. And what romantic could resist "Romeo et Juliette"?

**FOR CROSS-DRESSERS:** "The Marriage of Figaro" or "Der Rosenkavalier" should do just fine. You will have the extra titillation of watching a woman pretending to be a man pretending to be a woman. Don't laugh! This is high art.

**LOVERS OF ESCAPISM:** Many would argue that opera is nothing but escapism.

**FANS OF TEXAS CHAIN SAW MASSACRES:** "Tosca" would be a good start: the villain is stabbed, the hero gets shot, and the heroine ends up splattered. If they liked that, "Lulu" could be next: her lovers all kill themselves, and Lulu and her lesbian companion are knifed by Jack the Ripper. Very uplifting.

**DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY MEMBERS:** Wagner's "Ring of the Nibelung" should be just what you need, if you can take 16 hours of music. Besides being hounded by his shrewish wife, dealing with nine warrior daughters suffering from arrested development, and having to subdue a rebellious child, Wotan finds that two of his human children have mated to produce a rather loutish hulk who goes on to marry his aunt. Most family problems pale next to these.

**OPERA FOR PEOPLE WHO HATE SINGING:** Most atonal operas should delight such a person because they are mostly yelling (in the view of some). Apt choices here would include "Lulu" or "Moses und Aron" or anything by Stockhausen.

**GAY PURISTS:** If you insist on a gay theme, "Death in Venice" is made to order for guys, with the added thrill of a hunky dancer as Tadzio. Women will have a harder time of it. Countess Geschwitz in "Lulu" is lesbian, but her brutal murder rules out this opera. Yet a little imagination raises possibilities. You can make a good case that Puccini's Turandot has all her suitors beheaded because she really loves her thousand-year-ago ancestor Princess Lo-u-Ling. For more graphic adventures, "Der Rosenkavalier" opens with two women in bed after a night of hot love (the fact that one of them is supposed to be a 16-year-old boy is a minor detail) and ends as the same "boy" goes off arm-in-arm with another woman.

**FOR A REAL QUEEN:** It is too late—Maria Callas is dead! You'll have to be content with her recordings.

**AFICIONADOS OF PORN:** Cio Cio San in "Madama Butterfly" is only 15 years old when she "marries" Pinkerton. And Salome, still a minor at 16, should not be cavorting in the buff in front of her lecherous stepfather with only a prophet's head to show for it. Why isn't the opera house ever raided?

**POLITICAL TYPES:** After watching the Guelphs and Ghibellines go at each other in "Simon Boccanegra," the Democrats and Republicans will seem like fraternity brothers. Both "Boris Godunov" and "Khovanshchina" contain enough political intrigues to perplex even Boris Yeltsin.

**ANARCHISTS:** "The Secret of Susanna" would redden the face of even Timothy McVeigh. She tramples social conventions by smoking!

**LEGAL MINDS:** Anyone who can follow the legal complexities in "The Makropoulos Case" should qualify for a Harvard law degree.

**A FINAL CAUTION:** Under no circumstances should "Siegfried" ever be anyone's first opera. After watching an intelligence-challenged teenage boy cavort in the woods for nearly five hours, one would have to be on his mental level to return to the opera house.

See you at the opera!

—Wayne Anderson



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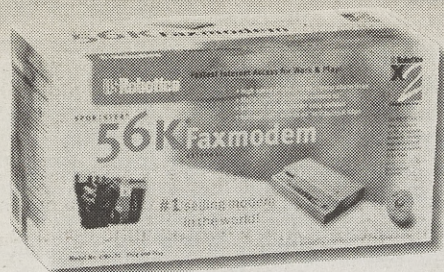
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# HOW MANY S'S IN HOLLYWOOD

## Feeling

Gerald Semas  
MGW/Staff

### On Film...

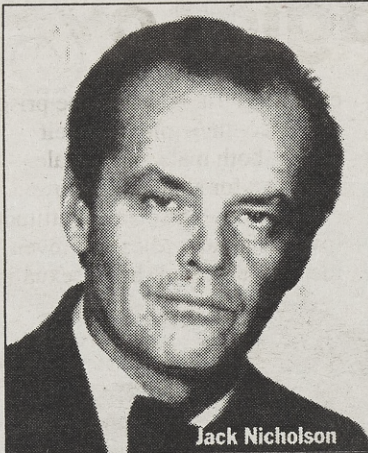
So you think holidays with your family feel like going down with the Titanic? Well, now you can experience the next best thing. Postponed from a Summer release and costing as much as Bill Gates' vacation pay, (\$200 million), James Cameron's *Titanic*, opens December 19th. The story spans from a present day expedition to the ship's wreckage beneath the Atlantic and back to the days leading up to the actual sinking of the luxury liner. Stars on board include **Leonardo DiCaprio**, **Bill Paxton**, **Frances Fisher**, **Kate Winslet**, **Billy Zane** (The Phantom), **Suzi Amis** (Lauren Bacall ex-daughter-in-law) and **Kathy Bates**. Leading up to the historical sinking the drama surrounds a romance between steerage passenger DiCaprio and upper class passenger Winslet as they head into an iceberg and the most eye-poppingly real special effects you've ever seen. The production had planned to film off the coast of Massachusetts but a **Kitty Dukakis** party for **Ted Kennedy** had depleted the ice supply. ▼▼▼

Twas the night before Christmas, and all through the house, not a SPECTRE agent was stirring, not while 007 is about. **Pierce Brosnan** returns as James Bond with the Christmas day opening of *Tomorrow Never Dies*.

This 19th installment in the James Bond movie franchise features Hong Kong action filmstar **Michelle Yeoh** as a Chinese Spy ally, **Teri Hatcher** (Lois and Clark) as another sexy Bond girl and **Johnathan Pryce** (Carrington) is a Rupert Murdoch type media mogul whose next hostile merger is with the start of WWII. Doesn't this put Saddam out of job? ▼▼▼

**Nathan Lane's** first film since "The Birdcage" is *Mouse Hunt* opening Dec. 25. British comedian **Lee Evans** plays Lane's sibling in this mis-adventure of two brothers who inherit a large house and try to rid it of the last remaining rodent resident. Lane has described it as "Home Alone" with a mouse. That blows John Hughes hope for Home Alone #4. The late **William Hickey** plays Father Smuntz and the ever creepy **Christopher Walken** plays an exterminator. This promises to be a holiday hit worth seeing just for the scene in which Nathan utters "We're talkin, one mean pussy!" ▼▼▼

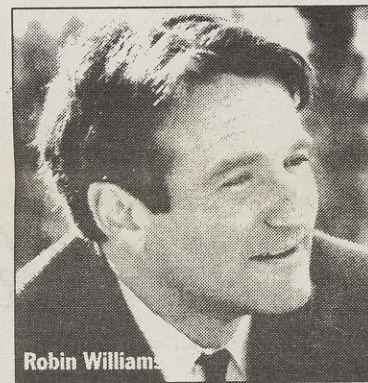
The latest film from writer, producer, director **James L. Brooks** is called *As Good As It Gets* and opens Christmas day. An impressive cast tells the tale of a sarcastic romance novelist, **Jack Nicholson**, a single mom waitress, **Helen Hunt** and a gay artist at a career crossroad, **Greg Kinnear** on a road trip from New York city to Baltimore. The picture floats between comedy and drama with Nicholson and Hunt becoming romantically involved as Kinnear heals from a mugging.



Jack Nicholson

Other cast members include Oscar-winner **Cuba Gooding Jr.** and **Skeet Ulrich** (Scream) as a gay street hustler obsessed with **Brad Pitt**. Pitt doesn't appear in the film but if you bought the infamous Playgirl issue there's nothing left for you to see! ▼▼▼

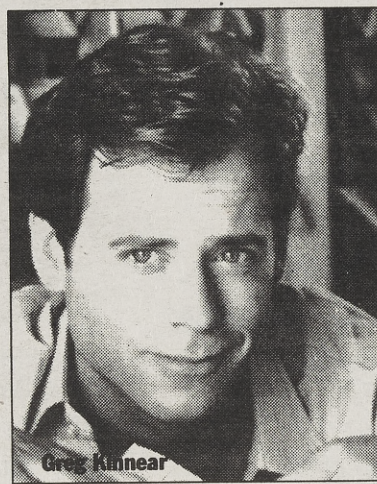
**Gus Van Sant** (My Own Private Idaho) gathered a stellar cast for his new film *Good Will Hunting*. The ensemble features **Robin Williams** (The Birdcage), **Matt Damon** (Courage Under Fire), **Ben Affleck** (Chasing Amy) and **Minnie Driver**. Damon plays a troubled mathematical genius in a script he wrote with co-star Affleck. Williams describes the project thus—"see the funniest man alive, not being that funny." Look for Williams to give a performance that may rival "The Dead Poet's Society". ▼▼▼



Robin Williams

Openly gay director **Joel Schumacher** is hoping to direct his own screenplay for his next project, titled *Flawless*. Details on the Warner Brothers project are hush hush while Schumacher will only say the film has two strong male leads. Guess that leaves **George Clooney** out of consideration. ▼▼▼ **Ellen Degeneres** will star with **Matthew McCauneghy** in *Ed T.V.* for director **Ron Howard**. The script comes from the successful writing team of **Lowell Ganz** and **Babaloo Mandel**. ▼▼▼ Give the lady her crown. Actress **Parker Posey**,

queen of independent films, is bucking for Sean Young's title of Hollywood Space Cadet. I wouldn't be surprised if she is cast in a remake of "Dr. Jeckyl and Ms. Hyde". ▼▼▼ The new film *Wilde*, starring **Stephen Fry** as the great gay playwright, was produced by Peter and Marc Samuelson who also worked on *Tom & Viv*. Advance screenings at the Venice and Edinburgh film festivals has started a lot of people talking about Oscar nominations for Fry and co-star **Jude Law** (Gattaca) as Wilde's young love, Lord Alfred Douglas. Wilde will have limited openings this month just enough to qualify it for the Academy Awards and then open wider after the holidays. ▼▼▼



Greg Kinnear

**Alexis Arquette** (Threesome) joins the every gorgeous **Mario Van Peebles** in *Love Kills*. Van Peebles who also directs and produces this independent feature describes it as a cross between "Pulp Fiction" (in which Arquette also appeared) and "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels". The film also features **Donovan Leitch** and **Lesley Ann Warren** (Victor/Victoria). ▼▼▼

Run for cover, here come the 70s again. If you didn't get enough of the platform shoe decade in "Boogie Nights" you'll have another sampling in **Todd Haynes'** (Safe) new film *Velvet Goldmine*. This homage to 70s glamour rock features **Christian Bale** (Little Women) as an investigative reporter and **Ewan McGregor** (Trainspotting) as a rock icon based on Iggy Pop. R.E.M. vocalist **Michael Stipe** is the executive producer. ▼▼▼

### In Theatre...

S.F.'s Theatre Rhinoceros has extended **Doug Holsclaw's** *The Last Hairdresser* through Dec. 20. Opening Jan. 8 in their downstairs

studio is the world premiere of *Happy Anniversary* by playwright **Lou Reda**. The play takes an irreverent look at a struggling writer and Macy's clerk approaching he and his partner's fifth anniversary. According to gay etiquette, what is the fifth anniversary gift suppose to be? Let's see, first year - latex, second year leather, third year piercing, fourth year a tattoo and oh yeah, fifth year - a houseboy! ▼▼▼

Another look at crime-of-the-century murderers **Leopold & Loeb** is the subject of **John Logan's** play *Never The Sinner*, now in production at Chicago's Victory Gardens Theatre. The story of the gay lovers who committed a thrill killing was covered in Alfred Hitchcock's "Rope" and in the intense film *Swoon*. ▼▼▼ The irrepressible **Nathan Lane** is heading for a February Broadway return in *Mizlansky, Zilinsky and Schmucks*. The story of two crooked movie moguls was written by **Jon Robin Baitz** and may have a name change prior to its premiere. ▼▼▼ Tony award winner **Wilson Jermaine Heredia** has stepped down from his Broadway role as drag diva Angel in the Broadway production of *Rent*. Stepping into his pumps is **Wilson Cruz** (My So Called Life) who comes from the L.A. production of "Rent". ▼▼▼

### On Television...

While most networks celebrate the newborn king with assorted holiday programming, HBO will be celebrating later-born queens with the documentary *Dragtime*. If you missed the Dec. 9 debut you can catch it again on Dec. 17, 27 and 30. The hour and 10 minute special will air as part of the *America Undercover* series and feature segments on some of America's best-known female impersonators. Among those profiled are **Charles Pierce**, drag ballerina **Jem Jender**, the **Lady Bunny** (can you say over-rated?) and the wonderful **Charles Busch**. ▼▼▼ HBO has latched on to **Barry Levinson** to develop it's first musical. And what a first endeavor. The cable network plans on Levinson directing the tele-film version of *Sondheim's Assassins*. ▼▼▼

For questions for comments Gerald Semas can be reached at Gsemas@aol.com

### ENDQUOTE

"I am the kind of guy who sings show tunes. And I'm not afraid to admit it!"  
- Casper Van Dien  
(Starship Troopers)

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# OUT ON FILM

## A Beautiful, Yet Tragic Love Story

by Stefan Grünwedel  
(MGW/Staff)

*Lilies*. Starring Jason Cadieux, Matthew Ferguson, and Brent Carver. Directed by John Greyson. (97 min.)

Canadian films don't appear in theaters very often, but when they do they usually offer some delightful surprises. John Greyson's *Lilies* is no exception. His film is artistically and evocatively rendered, beautifully shot, and performed with appropriate wit and drama. No wonder *Lilies* won four Genie awards (the Canadian equivalent of the Oscar), including Best Motion Picture. (Imagine a gay-themed film winning an Oscar for Best Picture in this country!)

Set in a penitentiary in 1952, *Lilies* begins as a Catholic bishop, named Bilodeau, makes an unusual visit to hear a dying inmate's confession. This prisoner, Simon, turns out to be a childhood friend of the bishop.

Confession is not that Simon has in mind, however, and Bilodeau quickly finds himself held hostage in the prison chapel. The inmates force him to watch a play in which they reenact events from Bilodeau's childhood. From this play, we learn that Bilodeau and Simon—along with an aristocratic young lad named Vallier de Tilly—formed a friendship/love triangle where desire and jealousy led to tragic consequences.

As the elder Bilodeau watches these events unfold before him, the prisoners don various crude costumes to reenact scenes from his past. Very subtly, the actual location in the film becomes set in the past, transforming the stage costumes into beautiful period

clothing. Just as subtly, the prison actors continue playing their roles—both male and female—allowing for some highly ironic commentary on society's attitudes towards gender roles and (even merely perceived) homosexuality.



Director of *Lilies*, John Greyson

Based on the 1988 Canadian play (in French) by Michel Marc Bouchard—"Les Feluettes ou la répétition d'un drame romantique"—*Lilies* deftly combines obvious staginess with period drama. More than just a series of flashbacks, this film weaves the past and the present in skilful ways. Quite literally at times, elements from one period merge into the other. This blending leads to some visually stunning sequences that are hard to forget.

The three boys—Jason Cadieux as Simon, Matthew Ferguson as Bilodeau, and Danny Gilmore as Vallier—are well cast. Each one brings an element of innocence and sexual yearning to his role.

The men who play women's roles—such as Brent Carver as Vallier's mother, the Countess de Tilly—transform what might have been simple drag into real acting. These are great female characters who just happen to be played by men.

Alexander Chapman, for instance, steals one scene when his character, Lydie-Anne, a Josephine Baker-type character from France, arrives in town in a hot air balloon. His characterization of a *grande dame* whose mere presence plays havoc with the norms of polite society is a real hoot (not unlike Chablis' self-portrayal in *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*).

*Lilies* is a brilliantly realized and daring film that succeeds in telling a tragic love story without resorting to cliché, melodrama, or even sacrilegious swipes. The final moments, in which a man's confession is ripped out of him, are both horrific and heartbreaking. This is not a film that leaves one unaffected.

*Lilies* opens at Landmark's Tower Theater on December 19th. Check out the movie's Web site at [www.slowburn.com/lilies.html](http://www.slowburn.com/lilies.html) ▼

## Close To Glenn

Review by Sean Rafferty

An ambitious directorial debut for the Lambda Players by Bob Grummons is more than matched by the world premiere of first time playwright G. Bruce Smith. As the apt title might suggest (to the lowly punster), *Close To Glenn* is a play anchored firmly around the Hollywood/Broadway icon Glenn Close. The diva of Sunset Boulevard takes a few knocks along the way but as the play unfolds it becomes clear that only Glenn Close can make everything right... or someone who looks close to Glenn Close.

The plot is more than just a comedy of errors with characters scrambling for a Glenn Close look-a-like, it is a story about relationships. Granted, though, what gay farce is not about relationships? This one is not the standard fare that is typical of other shows of the genre. A noticeable departure is the author's treatment of the gay "lifestyle." Most shows with similar themes would use a character's gay lifestyle as an obstacle to juxtapose another character for enhancing the plot. Not this one. Put away the tissue, because "guess what" is not an issue. These characters are gay to stay, how they relate to one another is half the fun.

The uptight and fastidious John Brandon (played by Jon Tharon McDonald) is a man left out of the loop. His 17 year old daughter Adriana and his husband Kevin (portrayed by Kellie Odneal and Alonzo Cadena, respectively) are two peas in a pod, made inseparable by having baseball in common. Adriana is an aspiring playwright with hopes of attending Yale's Drama program like her father. Her play "Spring Training" is such a hit with Kevin that he is pulling all the strings he can to get Glenn Close to star in Adriana's play. Kevin, a self professed "drama queen" and down on his luck director is genuinely interested in helping Adriana with her show, which may open the door to the ivy league. Having heard that Glenn Close has agreed to do Adriana's play, Paul Samuel (Donald Grant), a Yale admissions representative, is more than eager to make a house call. After all, for Glenn Close to do this she must me a close personal friend.

Smith makes it a point to break away from formula. First the representative, Mr. Samuel, is not homophobic and is informed about Adriana living with her father as his lover. Nor does he mind. Second, Adriana's mother (Elona Benefiel) is not a bitter bitch who is jealous about Adriana's relationship with Kevin (he has become a mother to her). Lastly, everyone in drag retained their own character. When John trades in his loafers for high heels in Act 2 and starts singing "Diamonds Are a Girls Best Friend", believe it or not, it wasn't over the top as one would expect.

Some of the most memorable moments come from this '90s family's three friends. Wei Lin-Lin is the Hollywood make-up artist credited with helping to bring out the Glenn Close in John. Joe is a down and out voice over actor. His impersonation of Josephine Baker just hasn't been working out the way he had hoped. Last but not least of the three friends is Larry. He is the inspiration for this whole fiasco for he was the first one to try out the idea of posing as Glenn. Larry falling short of the ideal is a scene not to be missed. A standout performance is given by Kellie Odneal who really shines as Adriana. This ensemble works well together despite their inexperience to bring to the stage a new and witty gay farce that delivers an evening of many laughs.

The Lambda Players will next bring to the stage the Broadway hit *The Captive*. Banned from Broadway in 1927 because of its pro-lesbian content, this will mark the first production of the play in 70 years. *The Captive* will be directed by Michael Jackson, who is making quite a name for himself directing revivals, having just directed the revival of *Jumbo* to sold out audiences and critical raves. *The Captive* plays February 6 through March 7 at the Geery Theatre. ▼

Suzan Pope  
at Victoria's

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## You're Invited...

Dear Friends,

A very special event in our community is scheduled for **Christmas Eve, December 24th**. On that night, **River City Metropolitan Community Church** will hold their first-ever **Christmas Eve Celebration at the Crest Theater**. As this event is open to all people of all faiths, please consider this your personal invitation to attend.

What a celebration it will be. A spiritual music program at 8:00pm, featuring the church choir, led by the vibrant Prentice Miner, begins the evening. If you haven't heard this award-winning choir lately, you are in for a real treat. They will lift you up and get you into the true spirit of the season. After the performance, there will be a special reception, followed by a Christmas Eve candlelight service, beginning at 11:00pm.

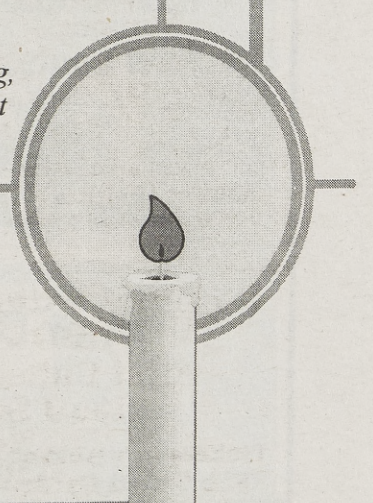
For many years, the River City MCC has been a pillar of strength in our community. Not just the gay and lesbian community, but the entire community. The church has literally risen from the ashes to provide support for those in need. It would indeed be a blessing to have a large crowd at the Crest on Christmas Eve, not only to celebrate the birth of Christ, but to celebrate **together**. More than just a religious observance, this is a community event!

To show our support for this wonderful evening, Sports Leisure Travel has underwritten the cost of the rental of the Crest Theater. There is no admission charge for either event, although certainly an offering to the Church would be greatly appreciated. See you on the 24th.

Sincerely,

*Mark & Clayton*

Mark Hoffmann & Clayton Whitehead  
Owners, Sports Leisure Travel





# SOUND BITES

## 0 to 60

### Various Artists

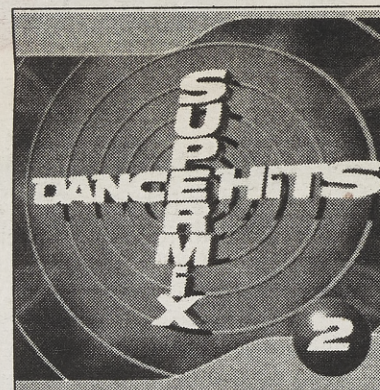
The dog with the biggest bone goes to Rhino. The kings of archives had so much wax in 97 we almost didn't beat the clock, so don't blink. 1) *Poptopia 70's 80's 90's*. A three CD set that encapsulates 3 decades of POP. 2) *The Big 80's*: A look at the Go-Go's, Culture Club, and The Steve Miller Band pop sound. Then there's *More Of The Big 80's* style, spin Devo, Peter Schilling, and the Thompson Twins worthy of mention. 3) *The Hard Rock Cafe: Classic Rock and Hard Rock Cafe*: New Wave highlight early rock and pop songs. 4) *Kurtis Blow presents The History of Rap* vols. 1-3 takes rap from its genesis to today's hip-hop sound showcasing some top artists of their day.



5) *Wild Style* is the musical spray paint powered by two turn tables, commando style. 6) *The Robyn Hitchcock Collection "Uncorrected Personality Traits"* cohere nine projects, sifting the best (just the hits, if you like Hitchcock....you know the rest.). 7) *8 track flashback: The One Hit Wonders*, says it all. 8) *The Texas Chainsaw Orchestra*: Bach meets Black and Decker on this buzzsaw, picture Jeb, Zeek, Bubba, and JR sippin moonshine and strokin their tools behind papy's tool shed. 9) *The Best of Celia Cruz Con La Sonora Matancera* is a festive retrospective of the Salsa Queens enjoyable hits from 1956 to 1965, a timeless delight from one of Cuba's gems. 10) *Staying in Cuba Tito Puente El Rey Del Timbal!* Is a percussionists dream, it's Afro-Cuban, mambo, or the marriage of the two....salsa. Travel from 1949 to 1987 on the heels of percussion and brass. 11) *Lets Dance! The Best of Ballroom Swing, Lindy,*



*Jitterbug and Jive* is a easy listening groove. Terpsichoreans should find little problem adapting to this new style dance music (so go grab your partner). The 2nd CD of this set is *Fox Trots and Waltzes* highlight the works of **Andy Williams, Henry Mancini, 101 Strings, The Manhattan Transfer, and Larry Chance** to name a few. (A great stocking stuffer for the hearing impaired) 12) Best for last....I've got more soul than papa's got brand new bags, "*Beg, Scream & Shout! The Big Ol' Box of 60's Soul*" encapsulates the history of soul music in a larger than mega 6 CD set. Everybody that was young, black, and could hold a note in the 60's is here, from **Aretha Franklin to Joe Tex**, it's a endless library. Open the doors to yesterday with **ATCO, Atlantic, Shout, Tamla, Stay, Amy, Gordy, One-Derfull, D-Town, Ric Tic, Back Beat, Motown, Cotillion, Gamble, and Cadet**. This musical gumbo comes in a cool big box, with cool credits/notes and cool flash cards with pictures and bio's.



Popular Records sent some nice stuff to my in box in 97....mix it. 1) *Dance Hits Supermix 2*: A balanced out put of high energy beat to the 20th power (**Lost, France Joli, Qkumba Zoo, The Original, Lina Santiago, Rochelle, Crush, and Le Click** should give you

some idea of the power of this mix. 2) *Disco Dance Hits. Good Time*: The evil dance twins to "*Stayin Alive*", "*I Will Survive*", "*Got To Be Real*", "*Music*", *Lets All Chant*", "*Y.M.C.A*", and "*Pick Up The Pieces*", to name a few. 3) *WKTV Last Dance At Studio 54* is yet another high energy dance fest. The floor stays packed as the sounds of **2 Unlimited, Billie Ray Martin, Crystal Waters, Robin S., Seduction, Ru Paul, La Bouche, Donna Summer** and more spin the 18 track continuous beats. 4) *France Joli Breakaway*: ropes in a posse of mix masters that create the non-stop dance all night music. 5) *ALEXIA number one* puts out. The vocals and musical harmonies are assisted with beautiful acoustics and brass powered by a driving beat. Next up,



**ALEXIA fun club**, a full length CD that's full of fresh dance music. Highlights are "*Number One*", "*Virtual Reality*", "*Me And You*", the lullaby "*Hold On*", and "*Beat Of The Night*" will keep you dancin. A nice project, thanks Andyman. Interhit Records: **Shelli**, luv ya babe, always dependable for the beats. 1) *Club nrg vol. 1* is an Euro import of 16 Hi NRG tracks, 9 were "International Hi NRG Top 10" hits. 2) **DMA DANCE. Vol. 4: eurodance** is the exclusive US debut of 16 European tracks available only on this set. Singles from **Duke, DJ Dado, Cappella, and DJ Supreme** keep you movin. 3) *Mega Hits Dance Party vol. 1* has the party dancing to the hits. This Top 10 Billboard pop hits CD has "*For You I Will*", "*2 Become 1*", "*Don't Speak*", and "*Quit Playing Games*", to name a few....some of the best dance music spinning today comes through Interhit speakers. Priority Records (thanks **Shelli**): 1) *Ultra Mix the best of tribal records america* is a mix of simplistic sounds that have definite primal appeal. It brings the noise. *Ultra Mix Drum & Bass* is a 70 minute trip through cyberspace on a syncro level. Take a synthesized digitized look at the dance floor. *Ultra Mix Euro Dance* finishes this set with a continuous pounding beat of high non-stop energy. **Velvet Records LLC** came on strong in the fourth quarter with....1) **Michelle Malone** beneath the devil moon: A new alternative artist that has all the required attributes for success. 2) **IT'S ON FIRE** (**Velvet/Fire Records**): A compilation of Fire bands from then and now. Works from **Libido, Novocaine NP, Chuck UK, Telstar Ponies, Salamanda, Thompson, Pulp, Chuck Prophet, The Pastels, Television Personalities, Close Lobsters, and Blue Aeroplanes** rock. 3) **Novocaine NP9: Frustration No. 10** is rapid fire rock. Take a deep breath, now start the rapid head movement and air guitar play this eight song mini-album creates. 4) **Talking to Animals Manhole**: 11 smart arrangements delivered by four musicians that compliment

each others abilities creating a distinctive rock sound. 4) *Libido* is the EP sampler from the upcoming *Killing Some Dead Time*, their debut album. This mini packs their debut single "*Supersonic Daydream*", "*Revolving*", "*Blow*", the quirky "*Remarkably Abnormal*", and the exclusive "*Annie's Song*" (penned by John Denver). Look for the album in early 98. Food for the soul was delivered by **Motown Records** by such upcoming artists as: 1) **Mario Winans** who's CD titled *Story Of My Heart* is a nice enjoyable blend of new-style R&B. 2) **Tarals' This Time** debuts 12 tracks of well rounded, polished and heartfelt songs. 3) **Shades**: the Motown girl group who's beauty is only surpassed its talent, their tight harmonies would indicate we'll be hearing a lot more from this R&B group. Over the year **Island Records** has been a major distributor to the in box, here's what's left. 1) *The last Party* (various): Come dance under the ball to some of the floors hottest beats by **Invisible Man's Band, BOHANNON, Donna Summer, Chic, and Lipps Inc.** (To be brief). 2) *Volume 1 - 1959-1964 - SKA's The Limit*: I can't attempt to speak or do justice to the CD now up for review, so I'll paraphrase....twenty songs from the first chapter from the book now known as **Island**. The CD is a festive look back at some of Jamaica's finest music. The second CD *Volume 2 - 1964-1969 - Rhythm & Blues* beat is a compilation of the musical lifestyle of England in the mid-to late 60's. This double set is full of musical history. **Capital Records** sent me sounds I sent to my dad that he sent back. 1) *Ultra-Lounge: Bottoms-up, TV Town, BOSSA Novaville, Wild Cool & Swingin' Too, Mondo Hollywood, and Bongo Land* is modern technology in the wrong hands tixes six. **Atlantic Records** sent the piercing lyrics of **Seven Mary Three** *Rock Crown*, A rock/alternative treat. **Antler Subway Records**: 1) *Lords of Acid rubber doll* is a dance house heavy syncro hip hop acquired listening type beat that becomes addictive (**Kraftwerk** with attitude) so B.Y.O.A. (bring your own acid). Grab a beer and spin *Our Little Secret*. Their new CD with 13 explicit songs that get the full 10 inches on the piameter....**Elvis** has left the building. —Charles Turner

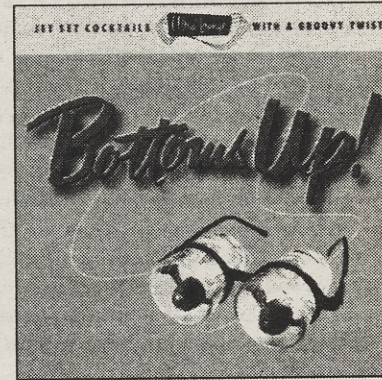


## Spiritual Healers

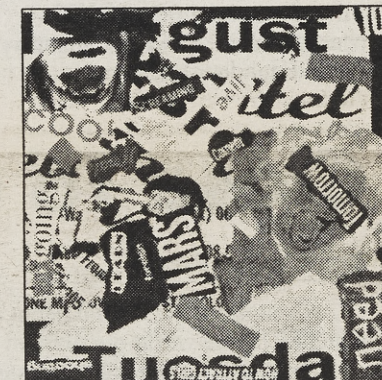
### Various Artists

Has the doctor got just the thing for you. Get out, just get out. I prescribe you board the musical 757, throw on the earphones and relax as your journey ascends toward the astral-plane. Our first navigators are **Brad White** and **Perre Grill** whom begin the "*Voyage*", a musical muscle relaxer that stimulates the senses. Its sight, smell, and touch put to music. Enjoy the inner peach of "*Voyage*".

*Paradise Cafe* by **Antar** possesses such a warm acoustic flow, his style invites you in and acts as port in the storm of daily stress for us, the weary musical traveler. Sit a spell and gaze at the sky. **Michelle Sell's "Secret Harbor"** is a beautiful collection of 12 compositions that massages and stimulates that part of the brain that soothes.



"Seasons", from **Stevan Pasero** encapsules a whirlwind of moods, it's what light is to growth, what the clouds are to the sky with the oceans mist softly blowing your face. It's a celebration of our surroundings. The 4 aforementioned, and many other beautiful compositions can be found on the **Sugo Records** label. A true spiritual experience; candles, wine, though, an open fire, and *A Piece of Heaven* by **Maia** on **Pure & Simple Records**. Her solo piano work is so hauntingly beautiful, it's a satin curtain blowing in the wind created by each stroke of ivory. This



food for the soul is served by a **Kawai G-3 Grand Piano**. Next, our astral trip embarks on a magical journey through the musical mind of **ED VAN FLEET**. Walk toward the light, feel the warmth as each note feels like a ray of sunshine. His CD "*Migration*" exposes these feelings while "*Grand Eagle*" is a CD that walks through the tribal woods, each step in balance with nature. The caressing waves, a full moon that illuminates the sparks in the sand. Feel "*Oceans*" drop anchor, gaze at the stars while laying on deck. "*Evening Passages*" finds twilight descending on us as the work day ends and your time begins. This CD will provide the solace. "*The Light of Midnight*" CD expands the horizon on the other side, for when the sun is setting it is rising. Spread the wings of your mind and soar the clouds riding emotion. "*The Forgotten Tribe*" is a musical walk across the sacred ground in search of ancestral knowledge. **ED VAN FLEET**, thank you for creating such beautiful music that cleanses the soul. "*The Pachelbel Canon with Ocean Sounds*" is one of the most beautiful pieces of classic repertoire I have ever heard. Real music has blended the relaxing, tranquil sounds of the Ocean. Do yourself a big favor, grab at least one CD for those "I've Got A Headache This Big" days that are sure to come. Thank me later, now go....just go. See you on the plane in '98.+ —Charles Turner

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# FOND FAREWELL

## FAREWELL

### Toni Carabillo

Feminist activist Toni Carabillo, 71, vice president and founder of the Feminist Majority, died October 28 1997, of lung cancer at her home in Los Angeles. A feminist leader and historian, Carabillo joined the National Organization for Women more than 30 years ago, serving over the years as president of the Los Angeles Chapter, national vice president, board member, and coeditor of NOW's national newsletter. She founded the national Feminist Majority in 1987, together with Eleanor Smeal (now the president), Peg Yorkin, Katherine Spillar, and Judith Meuli, her companion. The Feminist Majority "seeks to encourage women to attain positions of leadership in all walks of life."

In 1993, Carabillo coauthored *Feminist Chronicles, 1953-1993* (along with her partner, Meuli and June Csida), which became a textbook for university women's studies programs. Meuli and Carabillo also wrote *The Feminization of Power* in 1988. Most recently, Carabillo had been working on *The Feminist Chronicles of the 20th Century*, which Smeal and Meuli plan to complete. Carabillo was born in Queens, New York. She received a degree in American Literature from Middlebury College in Vermont in 1948, and earned a Master's degree the next year at Columbia University before going on to work as a writer and graphic designer.

In 1969, Carabillo cofounded the Women's Heritage Corporation, a publishing company that produced *Women's Heritage Calendar* and almanac and paperbacks about historic women's rights advocates. Apart from Judith Meuli, she leaves no immediate family. ▼

## FAREWELL

### James Marshall Echols

James Echols, 41 died of islet cell carcinoma and liver failure September 22, 1997 at his home in Rancho Cucamonga. At his bedside were his loving partner of 14 years, Robert Stilwell; his father, Rev. K. Dean Echols, founding pastor of Arden Christian Church in Carmichael; his mother Betty Hornsostel, founder of Yolo County PFLAG; and his sister Marjorie Echols of Chico.

Jim lived his first 10 years of life in Sacramento, the next 8 in Woodland, and then moved to Southern California where he studied at Long Beach Community College and University of California at Irvine earning a B.A. degree in drama. He later studied business at Chapman University and earned his MBA. Extracurricular hours were spent for two decades on the stage of several theatre companies doing acting, singing and dance. He was also a member of PFLAG.

At the time of his death Echols, a certified public accountant, was a vice president of Pomona First Federal Bankcorp and also assistant chief internal auditor. Memorial funds have been established in his name at Woodland Opera House and Grove Theater Productions in Upland. ▼

## THANK YOU

Sonya Cox, James Ozanich and all the other Names Project members and volunteers who helped with the AIDS Quilt display at the Hyatt Regency. We appreciate your efforts.

Love,  
Steve & Gary Groff

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## FAREWELL

### Robert A. Winter

Robert A. Winter died on November 12, 1997 in Carmichael, California. A self-employed artist and Author of "The Vanishing Generation", he is survived by his friend Steve Seward of Sacramento, and his brothers, David Winter of Gilroy and Richard Winter of Kentucky. Born on September 22, 1936 in Orange, New Jersey, he was a resident of Sacramento County for several years. At his request, no Funeral Services will be held. Private cremation with interment at Windfall Cemetery, Windfall, New Jersey under the direction of Reichert's Funeral Services. Memorial contributions may be made to the AIDS Foundation, Sacramento Chapter. Cards and letters may be sent to Steve Seward, 3323 Watt Ave, #117 Sacramento CA 95821 ▼

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## COMMENTARY

### Penis Envy

**N**ow you may wonder what penis envy has to do with the 'Holidays' or love, hope, joy and families. The fact is, I just wanted to get everyone's attention.

It occurs to me how so many of us show a different spirit during the holidays. We visit, call, or write those we have thought of but somehow never got to. We are more generous, donating "Toys for Tots", giving to the food bank and dropping bills into Salvation Army pots. We are even more friendly to strangers we pass.

It's a time for mailing cards and letters to family and friends we often don't write as we really should. We have family over for dinner or travel to visit them. We go so far as to buy and give gifts to those we really would rather not. We celebrate in our own religious spirit as this time of year means sometime different to each of us.

My point is, and I do have one, isn't it a shame the spirit the holidays bring, the love, the charity, the joy, doesn't last the entire year. If we can allow our hearts to open to others who we do not know, to family members we may not like, or to others during the holidays why can't we for the rest of the year.

There are needy children, homeless and hungry throughout the year. Our children remain our children, our parents remain our parents no matter how distant we live apart.

My hope for the years to come is that each of us can keep the spirit the holidays bring in our hearts throughout the year. That we can share that spirit with others in the hopes that we can all one day leave our prejudices behind and accept one another as brothers and sisters.

Will you join me.

—Ron Christ



Photos by Geoff Manasse,  
from *Making Love Visible,  
In Celebration of Gay and  
Lesbian Families*  
by Jean Swallow,  
The Crossing Press Inc. 1995  
1-800-777-1048



### Home For The Holidays

by Janet Lial Branson, LCSW

**M**any gays and Lesbians enjoy acceptance by their families. But for those who don't - or aren't yet out - the holidays can be a difficult and stressful time. Pulled by dual allegiances many gays and lesbians will struggle between spending time with partner and time with family.

The holidays are already a stressful time and conflicts between partners further heightens the tension. With high expectations of fun and feelings of closeness, the tension that comes in trying to please both family and partner may be particularly disappointing.

There are several steps that you can take to avoid the holiday tug of war: **Anticipate:** Think ahead about what is expected during the holidays. Waiting until the last minute to discuss holiday plans with family or partner is likely to cause somebody hurt feelings. Planning ahead allows you to think through options and decide what you want to do without making an impulsive decision in an attempt to avoid conflict.

**Communicate:** Now that you've anticipated what the likely conflicts will be you can initiate discussion about how you are going to handle your decisions about when and how to celebrate. Allowing plenty of time for discussion may allow for some alternatives that you wouldn't otherwise have thought of. Taking time to listen to how your partner is feeling about your decision and problem solving together can pave the way for greater closeness.

**Avoid Black or White Thinking:** Black and white thinking makes negotiating difficult! "If you don't celebrate with me then you don't love me," likely will leave both partners feeling unhappy about the discussion and with few options for negotiation. "But, we've always celebrated the holidays together!" similarly doesn't allow for a discussion. Trying to stay open minded may be difficult but ultimately will allow for greater problem solving and less tension.

**Be Creative:** Celebrating on a different day or having a Gay/Lesbian holiday with friends are several ways to celebrate the holidays without creating conflicts with family. If you are open to the possibilities and not limited to the way it's always been done before, the possibilities extend as far as the imagination. ▼



To all our readers and advertisers the staff of MGW Newspaper wish you and yours a very a happy holiday.





## All I Want For Christmas. . . Scenes in the Life of a Single Girl

by Jennifer L. Selig

**OPENING NIGHT** On the night before Thanksgiving, I meet an angel. At Faces, of all places.

As cliché as it sounds, it starts with our eyes meeting across the crowded dance floor, our bodies soon following suit. We begin to dance, moving in perfect rhythm, closer and closer, holding each other's eyes, small-talking a bit, for no more than a few minutes, but for long enough for me to become completely intoxicated. I am floating, spinning, dizzy, feeling a connection with this woman that is as inexplicable as it is sudden—and passionate. She feels it too, and tells me we have to stop dancing. No mere mortal is she. Dark hair, incredibly warm eyes, perfect body, and a smile that completely lights up the room—a feast for the eyes. The scent of her perfume which still lingers today—a feast for the nose. A voice so familiar that it seems to resonate with the very beating of my heart—a feast for the ears. The difference between a beautiful woman and an angel is in her presence, in her radiance and brilliance and luminosity. The aura of a halo around her head is also a dead give-away. This woman is clearly an angel. In the midst of debating whom to thank for this wonderful gift that I've spent a lifetime longing for—Santa or God—she tells me that she has a partner. They've been together for 2 1/2 years. I feel like one of those children in Whoville when the Grinch stole their Christmas.

**SCENE 1** That weekend, Sam patiently listens to every detail of the story of my angel at Faces. "I think you'll see her again," he finally offers reassuringly. "Oh yeah, I've seen her plenty of times since then. I see her driving down the road in every white car I pass, and I see her when I close my eyes to sleep at night and I see her on the pages of the books I'm reading and I see her in the middle of teaching my classes. She's everywhere—she's become an apparitional angel almost haunting me." "You saw her car? You should have gotten her license plate number and I could have looked her up for you." Sam works for an investigative agency. "Samuel!" I reply indignantly. "You know I'm not the stalking type." "Well honey, 'tis the season of stockings," he says, snickering.

pleased with his sense of humor. "And I'm planning on stuffing a cute single one into mine for the holidays." Puns aren't very funny to the broken-hearted. I tell him I'll save it for my first laugh of the new year.

**SCENE 2** I string up the outdoor lights, proud to be the first on my block to get lit. I still don't understand what happened that night. People who don't believe in romance and magic might call it animal magnetism, pure physical lust. Others with a more mythological bent might say that we were hit with Cupid's poisonous arrow, making us fall uncontrollably in love with the next person we saw—equally random, though slightly more romantic than the animal theory. Or, there's the theory I was reading, ironically enough, just hours before I saw her at the bar. Fred Alan Wolf is a physicist who explains deep attraction as two spinning quantum particles who find their true partner and feel "a dizziness, a loss of spatial sense, a psychic awareness, a sense of connection with the other physical thing." My favorite poet, Rumi, knew that over 500 years ago when he wrote, "All the particles of the world are in love and looking for lovers." Perhaps I just fell in love with the wrong particle, a proton who already had her neutron.

**SCENE 3** I call Alexandria the day after Thanksgiving. "How are you?" I ask, after detecting a sadness in her voice. "You sound depressed." "Well, I guess I am. The holidays always make me think of Hitler." This comment takes me by surprise. I know Alex has always been a drama queen, but it seems odd for even her to have to juxtapose Hitler and the holidays to get her fix of melancholia for the day—until I remember that Hitler is the name we gave to her ex-girlfriend, a particularly militant dictator type of lover. "I mean, don't you get depressed around the holidays? Don't you miss having a lover?" she asks wistfully. Not really, I tell her. But then again, I'm the type of person for whom not only is the glass always half-full, but all I wanted was half a glass anyway. I'll make the best out of anything.

**SCENE 4** This will be my third holiday season in a row without a lover to share it with. If I stay away from the Kenny G Christmas c.d. and only play "Ella Wishes You a Swinging Christmas" (and skip over "What are You Doing New Year's Eve?") then I'm usually okay. After all, being single at Christmas has its advantages. No having to split up the time between two families. No having to go to her terribly boring Christmas office party. No having to buy her the perfectly expensive yet meaningful gift. There's no arguing over different styles of Christmas trees, or the bigger decision—to flock or not to flock. Then again, there are disadvantages. No receiving the perfectly expensive yet meaningful gift. No slow dancing in the living room to romantic holiday songs by the light of the Christmas tree. No one to drive you home from your office party if you've had too much eggnog, to tell you if you made an idiot of yourself in front of your co-workers. No one to put her finger on just the right spot on the ribbon, to sneak a kiss on your nose as you tie the knot. Sometimes the glass really is half-empty, but if I squint my eyes hard enough, I can make it look half-full.

**SCENE 5** Sarah is a single friend of mine who shared with me a few days ago that she doesn't even bother to put up a tree or string lights if she doesn't have a lover to share it with. Not me. I love the holiday season. Brilliant white lights, blood red poinsettias, pine green trees, bright Hanukkah blue and gold—a feast for the eyes. Holiday songs, the Salvation Army bells, the bustle of shoppers—a feast for the ears. Cinnamon, pine, pot pourri, a roasting turkey—a feast for the nose. I place the Christmas angel on top of the tree. Another disadvantage of being single is that no one can tell you if it's on straight—you have to keep jumping off the ladder and checking it yourself. I still can't stop thinking of her. Angels, when they finally appear, are not supposed to have lover angels. Then again, I remind myself for cheap consolation, there were three of Charlie's Angels. A perpetual triangle, with me as Kate Jackson, the unchosen one with the boring hair. Why, I wonder, would I be shown the perfect vision of the perfect woman, the cookie cutter from which my type was made, yet have her snatched away from me after only five blissful minutes? Ella bops in the background with her swinging version of "Santa Claus is Coming to Town." She warns me, "He's making a list, and checking it twice. Gonna find out who's naughty and nice." Stepping off the ladder, I think perhaps I've hit on the real reason for my torment. Maybe I've been naughty this year, and this was my lump of coal, a month early, as a warning to get my act together. I check the balance on my karma sheet, but find it still heavy on the nice side. Nevertheless, I swear to "be good for goodness sake" from here to eternity.

**SCENE 6** At my gay friend Jack's house for dinner that night, we share a glass of brandy and fall to lamenting our singular state. "We should start a club. A singles club. We could call it SOS. Season of Singles. Single Over the Season," he suggests sardonically. "Or, for us, it will be more like Single over the Seasons," I reply, emphasis on the final S. "I don't know," he says as he shakes his head. "I'm just so good at pining away after someone I can't have or don't have. I think it may be my gift. I'm not sure I can give it up." "I hear you, brother. I'm a piner too. A piner from way back. But hell, at least now we're seasonally correct." (Sometimes the broken-hearted do make their own puns, but they don't promise to laugh at them). "You're right. 'Tis the season to be lonely," he says as he kisses me goodnight. I drive away from his house, still smiling at the possibility of our SOS club, so lost in my thoughts that somehow I miss my turn. It is late and dark, and I can't find my way back to the freeway. I keep going down the same streets, finding the same dead-ends, finding myself more and more frustrated, until finally, I pull over and begin to cry. "Please, I don't want to be lost. Don't let me be lost anymore." I feel slightly ridiculous as tears stream down my face, and I know what this is actually about—not being lost, but being not found. Sometimes the glass really is half-empty, but if I cry hard enough, I can make it half-full again.

**FINAL SCENE** Somewhere out there, my angel is lying in the arms of another. Somewhere counting my blessings, minus one. Somewhere out there, another woman I've never met is ing his stocking, Alex is dreaming of Hitler, Sarah is debating whether to bother with a tree, and are drawn together like magnets, Cupid is blindly shooting arrows, and particles are falling in love. Somewhere out there, you're reading this story, finding a little piece of yourself in it, and smiling. If you're in a relationship, promise me this. Skip the curtain call and go home to your lover, holding him or her so close to you until you can feel wings. What you are holding is a miracle, but only if you recognize it. If you're single, read on.

**COURTAIN CALL** One of my favorite holiday songs when I was little was "All I Want for Christmas is My Two Front Teeth," except I faulted the girl who sang it with being incredibly idiotic. With my youthful logic, I reasoned that the opportunity to ask for anything you want only comes once a year; I couldn't understand why she'd squander that opportunity on something so stupid as two front teeth which would inevitably come in anyway if she were just patient enough. And for you, for us, I offer this—maybe that's how it is with love too. Falling in love again is inevitable; if we're just patient enough, our angels are sure to come in time. The real opportunity is to ask for hearts open wide enough to embrace them when they arrive. In the end, that's all I want for Christmas.





# NEWS CLIPS

## Washington Voters Defeat Anti-Discrimination Measure

The first ever pro-gay statewide ballot measure was defeated in Washington State. Initiative 677 would have banned employment discrimination based on sexual orientation in the state, though supporters of the initiative were disappointed, their efforts marked a new chapter in the movement.

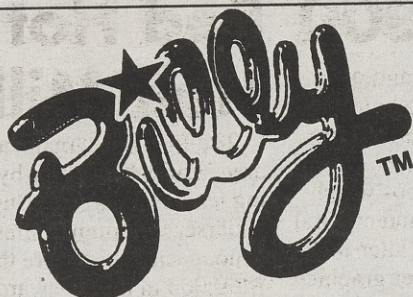
Prior to Initiative 677, ballot measures were used only to attempt to restrict the civil rights of sexual minorities. The most notable of these is Colorado's Amendment 2, which passed in 1992 and was overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1996. California, Maine, Idaho and Oregon have also faced statewide anti-gay ballot measures. Maine, California and Hawaii still have anti-gay ballot measures looming.

## Cincinnati Anti-gay Measure Left Intact

A three judge panel of the U.S. 6th Court of Appeals declared that Cincinnati voters have a right to enact legislation forbidding equal rights for gay, lesbian and bi-sexual people.

The decision is identical to the panel's previous ruling on Cincinnati's anti-gay ballot measure, Issue 3. The U.S. Supreme Court had remanded the case to the 6th Circuit to reexamine the issue in light of the high court's ruling in *Romer v. Evans* which struck down on Colorado's anti-gay Amendment 2.

In 1993, Cincinnati voters passed Issue 3, an anti-gay amendment to the City Charter which prohibited the city from enacting legislation banning discrimination against GLBT. The measure had been patterned after Colorado's Amendment 2, passed by voters in 1992 and declared unconstitutional in 1996.



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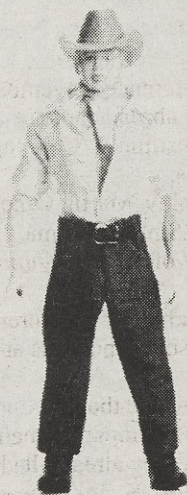
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# NEWS CLIPS

## AT&T Awards \$10,000 Red Hot Announces Half Million in Grants

AT&T and the Academy of Friends awarded a \$10,000 grant to Proyecto Contra SIDA por Vida (PCPV), a San Francisco program of the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention (NTFAP) for its Colegio Contra SIDA program targeting the Latino/o queer community. Colegio Contra SIDA, a series of HIV risk reduction workshops which integrate prevention education within the social, historical, and cultural Latino culture. College "courses" includes creative writing, alter-making, video production, quilt-making, fashion design, computer graphics and photography. "The support of AT&T and Academy of Friends comes at a crucial time as HIV prevention dollars are being reduced while HIV infection rates continue to increase among Latinos, particularly among gay and bisexual men who make up 67 percent of Latino AIDS cases in California", stated Joe Reyna, Jr., Director of NTFAP.

The Red Hot Organization honored World AIDS Day by renewing its commitment to supporting underserved communities with the announcement of more than \$450,000 in newly-awarded grants for AIDS prevention and relief. The grants, which target disenfranchised groups and represent profits from past Red Hot albums, were announced on their web sites

www.redhot.org and  
www.redhot.com.

The awards represent profits from Red Hot albums, including Red Hot+ Dance, No Alternative, Red Hot+ Country and Stolen Moments: Red hot + Cool. The Organization's records, and related AIDS-awareness Television specials, have received widespread critical acclaim, including album-of-the-year from TIME magazine, and are generally regarded as having set the artistic standard for charitable projects in the entertainment industry.

The grants support new vaccine research and advocacy targeting the needs of women, rural communities, prison inmates and injection drug users. ▼

## Court Reviews Firing

Lesbian lawyer, Robin Shahar, has asked the U.S. Supreme court to review and rule on her case against Michael Bower's, who fired her from the Georgia Attorney General's Office when he learned she planned to hold a Jewish commitment ceremony with her lesbian partner.

The Court, if it takes the case, will have the opportunity for the first time to rule on whether gay relationships are protected by the right of intimate association which protects deep personal bonds such as family relationships from government intrusion. ▼

## "Creating Change" Brings More Than 1,500 to San Diego

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force held its 10th annual Creating Change Conference November 12-16 in San Diego. More than 1,500 activists from around the country and some from abroad came together to learn, discuss, strategize and debate in 150 workshops, meetings and all-day institutes. Creating Change is the nation's oldest and longest-running gathering of GLBT activists and allies.

Participants heard from Sheila James Kuehl, Speaker Protem of the California Assembly, Martin Ornelas-Puintero, Executive Director, National Latino/a Lesbian and Gay Organization, Roland Sintos Coloma, NGLTF Youth Institute graduate and public school teacher, and Dorothy Allison, author of *Bastard Out of Carolina*, who delivered the second annual Vito Russo Lecture on Arts and Politics.

This is a phenomenal political gathering' said NGLTF Executive Director Kerry Lobel of the Conference. "It is a tapestry of every idea and issue facing our community. The exchanges, relationships and tools at Creating Change prove that we do our best work in collaboration," she added.

Kuehl, The Speaker Pro Tem of the California Assembly and the first open lesbian to have the job, told the crowd how they could make political changes in their own communities. In a speech comparing members of the GLBT community to the four well-known travelers to Oz, she told them that they already had the power to compete for a political seat or to contribute to the GLBT political movement. Kuehl's speech and that of the other three keynote speakers was cybercast live by GLOradio, the broadcasting arm of PlanetOut.

Everybody went home with something," noted Sue Hyde, Creating Change Conference coordinator. Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin received the NGLTF Community Service Award for their organizing work and political involvement over the past forty years. Tim Gill who is used to giving to others, also received a Community Service award at the conference. Gill invented Quark software and heads the Gill Foundation, which provides funding for GLBT organizations, particularly in rural locations.

Consortiums and national groups ranging from GLBT community centers to Federal GLOBE held their own annual conferences at Creating Change. Nearly 40 member states of the Federation of Statewide Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Political Organizations, met to elect an Executive Committee and to select Paula Ettelbrick of the Empire State Pride Agenda and Hardy-Garcia of the Texas Lesbian and Gay Rights Lobby, as to organization's co-chairs. Also at this year's Conference, about 60 faith activists met to develop strategies for moving forward their work. They delivered a statement at the closing plenary pledging to more actively participate in the GLBT political movement.

Creating Change was the birthplace of a new organization. The National Consortium of Directors of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Resources in Higher Education was officially launched at the Conference. Eighteen professionally-staffed GLBT organizations participated in the development of the organization which will work to support GLBT students and faculty on college and university campuses.

Sponsors of the 1997 Creating Change Conference include The Gill Foundation, Pacific Bell, American Airlines, Tzabaco, Nike, Xerox, PlanetOut and the Gay and Lesbian Times of San Diego.

In 1998, the Creating Change Conference will be held from November 11-15 at the Westin William Penn Hotel in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Info: 202-332-6483, or <http://www.nglftf.org/cc97>. ▼

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## In Loving Memory of friends lost in December

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Michael Naber

**December 1985:**  
Felix Oramas

**December 1986:**  
Rick Hernandez

**December 1987:**  
Ron Parsons

**December 1988:**  
Linda Cottrell  
David Marcus  
Richard Vaughn  
Ralph Trainor  
Sylvester

**December 1989:**  
Bill Quinn  
Donny Dingler  
Roy Frisch  
Al Valdez  
Bill Lemen  
Stan Miguel-Ward  
Wayne Rasmussen  
Bob Ferrell

**December 1990:**  
Jimmie Collier  
Gary Batchner  
Johnathan Francorow  
Willis James  
Edward Lennane  
Jim Nolan

**December 1991:**  
Stan Hadden  
Father David Myers  
Charles James Hribal, Jr.  
Tommy Gossett  
Leonard Wilcox  
Gilbert Lopez

**December 1992:**  
Michael Patterson  
Jim Graham  
Michael Barrett  
Jim Scaman  
Margaret Coelho  
Xavier Franco

**December 1993:**  
Kim Ingraham  
LeRoy Davidson  
James A. Cody  
Ed Walker  
Mary King  
James Edward Graves  
Cliff Clark  
Paul Ashley  
Alfred H. Gaul, Jr.  
Kenric Brown  
Michael Callen

**December 1994:**  
Gary Smith  
Ronnie Neal  
George Smith  
Gregg Cranert  
Ric Marino  
Linda L.  
Brook R.  
Robert Darrell Lippincott  
Damon Wilson  
John Kiely  
Philip Johnson  
Sammy Slater  
Jerry Moyer  
Mike Davis

**December 1995:**  
Perry Florio  
Michael Brooks  
David Bell  
David C.  
Thomas D.  
James Jumper  
Eric Mask  
Bill W.  
Billy V.  
Kent Hull  
Michael Mears

**December 1996:**  
Paul Arthur Young  
Robert Kelly  
Mike Smith  
Roger Dale Helms  
Scott Dearing

**December 1997:**  
Kirk Derby

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By Sonya Cox  
AIDS/HIV Editor

## Cocktails may halt dementia...

Anti-AIDS drug "cocktails" appear to be able to halt, and possibly reverse, dementia caused by the disease, say researchers at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York. Brain scans of those participating in the recent study show that protease inhibitors combined with other antiviral drugs changed the course of AIDS dementia complex enough to permit some people to return to their jobs. Researchers said many study participants had been given less than a year to live and were nurse-dependent when they started treatment with the cocktails. Fourteen months later, he said, they were alive and, in some cases, enough improved to return to work. ▼

## Window of early detection...

At a time of examinations of the role of viral load and T-cells, new findings from researchers at Massachusetts General Hospital suggest that maintaining high levels of HIV-specific T-helper cells in newly-infected people may be directly related to the body's future control of the virus. The researchers reported that tests using antiviral drugs to treat people recently infected with HIV show that the drugs cause the viral load to drop, allowing the body's immune systems to produce T cells that attacked HIV. "This suggests there is a window of time during the acute phase of infection when antiviral treatment can rescue the helper T cell response to HIV," researchers explained. ▼

## Safe at the plate...

Food-borne illnesses strike millions of Americans each year, and are linked to over 9,000 deaths annually. People with weak immune systems are at highest risk for complications. Recent findings from researchers in Spain indicate that over 35 percent of people with HIV who were treated for Salmonella bacteria developed lung involvement. Additionally, the doctors said their review of health records showed a high incidence of super-infection with other lung pathogens such as Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia, tuberculosis, and pyogenic (pus-forming) bacterial infection. So please take extra precautions if you're HIV positive. Make certain hamburgers, steaks, eggs, chicken, and fish are well done before eating them, even if you prefer meats rare or medium. Do not eat sushi. Be careful of all shellfish, whether purchased at the store or in a restaurant.

Sanitize sponges after cleaning kitchen counters. Otherwise, you're just spreading harmful bacteria throughout the kitchen. If you clean up spills from meat with a moist dishcloth, you are also transmitting any possible bacteria from the area of the spill onto your counter—use paper towels to clean up spilled meat juice. At the end of each day, put your sponge in the dishwasher, and toss your dishrag and towel into the laundry. Replace sponges every few weeks.

Refrigerate leftovers as soon as possible. Refrigeration may not reach the inside of large portions of foods being stored, so divide leftovers (roasts, meatloaf, etc) into smaller portions for storage to make certain all parts of the food cool to 40 degrees within an hour.

Don't cross-contaminate. Wash cutting boards and counter-tops immediately after they're exposed to raw meat, poultry, or fish, before cutting salad on the same area. Plastic cutting boards are best, but the way you clean is far more important than the texture of your surface.

Carefully follow all directions for microwave food. If they say rotate, or leave in for an extra minute or two after cooking, be certain to do this to avoid uncooked cold spots.

Wash every fruit and vegetable before eating it. Don't use soap. Store all cut fruits and vegetables in the refrigerator.

Remember, be careful about what you eat, you might also be doing your lungs a favor. ▼

## Zidovudine (AZT) does not reduce KS...

Although previous clinical studies indicated that AZT could lower the incidence of KS by about 33 percent, University of Pennsylvania researchers say those initial, smaller studies may have been limited by low statistical power and heterogeneity (having widely dissimilar elements), with the positive data being the result of chance. The U of Pa researchers based their finding on the study of nearly 5,000 men enrolled in an AIDS cohort study. ▼

## Shining stars...

Singer Elton John is opening a second shop (Out of the Closet II) in London at which he plans to sell more than 10,000 of his favorite diamond-studded dinner jackets, platform shoes, and other outfits and costumes at bargain prices to raise money for his Foundation for AIDS.

Actress Susan Sarandon recently returned the alumni achievement award she received from Catholic University in 1982 because the school changed its mind about giving a similar award to actor/director Joseph Sicari. The reason the school gave for not giving Sicari the award was that he was a founding member of the AIDS activist group ACT-UP, citing that members of the group last year had interrupted Communion at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York as part of a protest. ▼

## Medicaid coverage not extended...

The Clinton administration will not be expanding Medicaid coverage to include the expensive new AIDS drugs designed to keep people with AIDS healthy. Under current law, Medicaid cannot initiate innovative projects unless it can prove that they will not increase the program's expenditures. Health officials had hoped to prove that paying for more therapies for healthier individuals would reduce the long-term costs of their medical care, but ended up concluding that the drugs were simply too expensive. They say

they will continue to examine the Medicaid program in hopes of finding other ways of providing AIDS drug assistance to this country's poor. ▼

## Americans have realistic view...

According to a new survey by the Kaiser Family Foundation, the U.S. public remains concerned about AIDS and its severity, despite recent news regarding declines in AIDS-related deaths and advances in treatments. While people are very optimistic about the advances, they're still realistic about the fact that there is no cure, say the survey-takers. In addition, 52 percent of respondents say the U.S. is making progress in the battle against AIDS, and 51 percent believe the government does not spend enough to combat the disease. ▼

## Critical new AIDS Institute comes to west coast...

The University of California in San Francisco recently announced the inauguration of the AIDS Research Institute (ARI), the largest AIDS initiative outside of the National Institutes of Health. ARI Director Thomas Coates explained the new institute requires a deep level of collaboration, as it will incorporate both practical and financial support for a wide variety of initiatives, including vaccine research, transmission and prevention studies, and ethics research. One of ARI's first projects is the HIV Breakthrough Project, which will investigate viral rebound in patients treated with protease inhibitors. Specifically, researchers will examine how protease inhibitors are absorbed and metabolized, as well as the role of drug resistance and viral mutations in treatment failure. ▼

## Prednisone boosts weight, reduces viral load...

Research from a small, preliminary trial suggests that oral prednisone treatment (a steroid hormone) helps people with wasting syndrome to gain weight. In addition, the drug appears to have anti-retroviral effects in people with HIV. Researchers from the University of Alabama report that all four people in the trial showed improvements and well as either weight stabilization or weight gain. ▼

## Same-day testing works well...

In the "advances brought about by necessity" department, the Agency for International Development has been operating three AIDS testing sites in Uganda that provide same-day results. According to the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, the program ensures that virtually everyone who is tested learns the results and receives the necessary counseling and education, without the stress of waiting one to two weeks. The CDC researchers found that by using a combination of two rapid tests --Cambridge Diagnostics' Capillus test and Trinity Biotech's SeroCard gold assay -- sensitivity and specificity levels could reach 100 percent. Currently, Murex's Single-Use Diagnostic Test is the only rapid test available for clinical use in the United States, but CDC officials say the United States may eventually switch to a combination of rapid tests or just one rapid test. ▼

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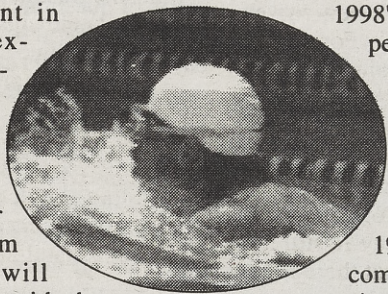
# NATIONAL / WORLD NEWS

## FINA Sanctions Competition Intern Opportunities in 1998

The swimming competition at Gay Games Amsterdam 1998 has been officially sanctioned by the international swimming body FINA. The announcement was made during a meeting of the Federation of Gay Games in Denver. The Dutch swimming body (KNZB) supported the application to FINA by Gay Games Amsterdam 1998.

FINA approval ensures that 'the world's largest swimming event in 1998', with up to 1,200 swimmers expected, is internationally recognized. All times and records will be acknowledged according to international regulations.

Swimming will be one of the most popular sports during Gay Games Amsterdam 1998. The seven-day program will comprise of all championship events, with the exception of the men's 1,500 meters. Each day will feature six events held in the Sportfondsendbad, a 50-meter, eight lane competition pool in the city of Amersfoort, just outside of Amsterdam. The venue, with room for 800-1,000 spectators, has hosted a long list of national and international swimming contests. In addition to the competition pool complete with state-of-the-art electronic timing equipment, the Sportfondsendbad offers a recreational pool and a 25-meter diving pool where diving demonstrations will be featured during Gay Games. Info: Call Center: 011-31-20-4271998; E-Mail: info@gaygames.nl; Internet: www.gaygames.nl



## 3 killed, 5 injured in Kentucky

A 14 year old high school freshman is the suspect in a shooting at a high school in West Paducah, Kentucky that left three girls dead and five other students wounded as they ended a prayer meeting Monday, December 1.

The boy had warned some of the students the week before that "something big was going to happen" but the students did not take the message seriously and did not report the remarks to the school officials.

The identity of the boy has been withheld because of his age. Apparently he came to school with a .22-caliber handgun and three spare clips of ammunition, 2 rifles and 2 shotguns wrapped in a blanket. Upon entering the lobby the young man stuffed his ears with ear plugs then pulled a handgun from his backpack and opened fire on 40 students who had gathered for their daily informal prayer.

After firing all but one bullet from an 11 bullet clip he dropped the weapon at the urging of Ben Strong one of the prayer groups leaders. Only days earlier, the boy had warned Strong and others not to show up for the prayer circle.

It is uncertain as to the exact motive for the crime, however it is known the boy had a dislike for the prayer group and that it was

something he "didn't believe in."

The guns were stolen from the garage of one of the boys neighbors on Thanksgiving Day. One gun was given to another student, there is some speculation others may have been involved. The student has been charged as a juvenile with murder, attempted murder and burglary. Prosecutors in the case are seeking to have the young man charged as an adult.

The boy confessed to the crime but could not explain why he had planned the attack or why he had targeted the prayer group, since some of the victims were friends.

Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation has undergraduate and graduate student internships for 1998 spring semester open to interested parties.

### Entertainment Media Intern (Los Angeles)

This Intern is responsible for supporting the Entertainment Media Director in all aspects of his or her job of conceptualizing, implementing and evaluating the organization's role and activities within the entertainment industry. Administrative, research and planning responsibilities.

### Grants and Foundations Intern (Los Angeles)

This intern will assist the Associate Development Director in researching and writing grant proposals. This intern will also provide support to the Associate Development Director and help build relationships with various foundations.

### Interactive Media Intern

This intern will work with the Interactive Media Director in researching trends in interactive media, examining GLAAD's own presence on the Internet, as well as evaluating GLAAD's role in the interactive media industry. This will include working on GLAAD's Web page and e-mail list. This position is available in all office locations.

### Communications Intern (New York)

This intern will work with the Communications Director and Publicity Associate on media relations, scheduling interviews with GLAAD staff and GLAAD initiatives in the press. This intern will assist in researching story ideas for "GLAADAlert," "GLAADLines" and on-line alerts, as well as helping with the production of press releases.

### Volunteer Coordination (New York, Los Angeles)

This intern will work on outreach to the local community in the effort to build GLAAD's volunteer database. Responsible for coordinating volunteers for special events in their local area, office support and maintaining the local volunteer database.

### Senior Management Intern (New York)

This intern will have the opportunity to work in all facets of GLAAD by providing support to GLAAD's Executive Director and Senior Director of Programs. The position is open to graduate students only.

### Archival Intern (New York, Los Angeles)

This intern will work in GLAAD's extensive video and clippings libraries, reviewing, sorting and cross referencing information. The work will consist of filing and database management.

### Development Intern (New York, Los Angeles)

This intern will work with the Development Director on special events, direct mail campaigns, corporate solicitation, major donor and member cultivation and recognition projects and assisting with the work of Media Resource Center development committees. Candidates should have a working knowledge of Mac word-processing systems, databases management and mail merge.

### Media Resource Center Intern (San Francisco, Washington, DC, Atlanta, Kansas City)

This intern will assist Media

Resource Center managers with administrative duties as well as program initiatives and volunteer management. Daily duties will range from assisting with local press calls to involvement in local GLAAD events.

### Media Awards Intern (Los Angeles, New York and Washington, DC)

This Intern will work with the development staff and co-chairs of the event in their respective cities focusing on production and volunteer coordination for this national award ceremony.

### Editorial Intern (San Francisco)

This intern will assist the Publications Manager in researching and collecting factual data for stories that appear in all GLAAD publications. Writing for publications is also a possibility.

### Design Intern (San Francisco)

This intern will work with the Publication and Design Associate to create GLAAD's monthly publications and all of GLAAD's printed materials.

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# YOUTH / PARENTING

## Gay Family Issues Surveyed

More than ever, gay and lesbian Americans are having families with children, who become part of these families in many ways. Institutions on the extreme right try to frame gay family issues only in terms of adoption, where there is a perception that gay men and lesbians are vulnerable. New research shows that even on that topic, there are key messages that resonate with the country.

"The issue of adoption is best decided by parents and professionals on a case-by-case basis, not by politicians or the government." So say American people, according to a public opinion survey conducted in August by Penn, Schoen & Berland Associates, on behalf of the Human Rights Campaign. In this groundbreaking study of 812 registered voters across the United States, we found Americans do not want to see Congress, state legislatures or bureaucrats making broad rules and regulations about who should and should not be able to adopt children. Americans categorically reject the notion that the govern-

ment should take a greater role in deciding who can and cannot adopt children, with 74% say we should keep the system we currently have, rather than allow the government to take a greater role (19%). More than three-quarters of voters (78%) believe that the issue of gay men and lesbians adopting children should be decided on a case-by-case basis rather than by the federal (10%) or state (8%) government. And nearly four in five (79%) think the issue of gays and lesbians adopting children should be decided by parents and professionals rather than by judges (9 percent) or politicians (3%).

Voters do not want to make adoptions by single gays and lesbians illegal. More than half (55%) would oppose a law that would prevent gay men or lesbians from adopting children, and nearly two-thirds (63%) oppose making joint adoption among gay and lesbian couples illegal.

Fundamentally, Americans do not see the issue of gay adoption as a "rights" issue. In fact, by a margin of five to one, voters over-

whelmingly tell us that adoption is not a right (19%) at all but a privilege (81%). Thus, the issue is not one of comparing heterosexuals' "right" to adopt children to homosexuals' "right" — few Americans believe that such a right exists. For either side to view this battle as a rights issue completely misses the point.

Instead, voters are looking for a rational discussion about parenting skills and the best interests of the child, not an emotional debate over sexual orientation. The majority of Americans believe that prospective parents should be judged more on their parenting skills than on their sexual orientation. Nearly three in five voters (59%) say that people should not be disqualified from becoming parents solely on the basis of their sexual orientation should not be the primary factor in deciding if a person is fit to be a parent. In fact, only one in three (34%) cite sexual orientation as "extremely important" in deciding whether or not a person is a fit parent, the same percentage who cited "financial security."

Moreover, voters reject the notion that gays cannot be good parents. A total of 52% strongly agree that gays and lesbians can be just as good parents as heterosexuals, and 56% believe gay men and lesbians should be allowed to be parents.

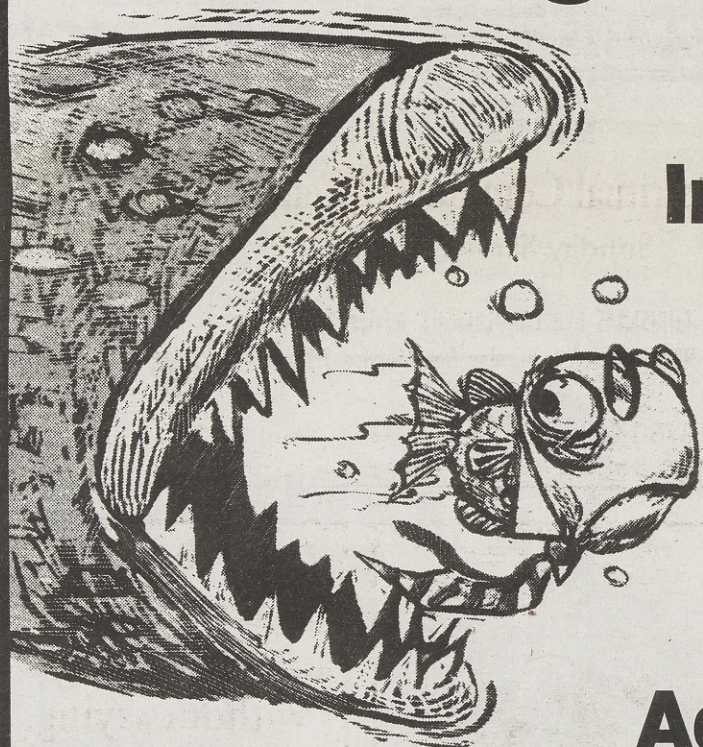
But as we have seen before with issues involving gays and lesbians, opinions are fluid and subject to shift by providing people with true information, conversely, by appealing to their fears, misconception and homophobia. In discussing this issue, the gay and lesbian community should stick to the facts, and avoid the polarizing rhetoric of "rights," however justified, that has consumed so many recent efforts. Whether the issue of gay adoption arises, gay and lesbians must clearly and calmly demonstrate the facts of the matter to the community at large—particularly the tens of millions of married couples living in the suburbs raising kids of their own.

By communication these points in the short term, the gay and lesbian community has an excellent

opportunity to build support for adoption. But the data strongly suggest that the real key to acceptance and equality lies in educating the public about what it's really like to be gay. We asked a series of questions concerning people's general beliefs about gays and lesbians and then examined the effect of these opinions on support for gay adoption. The finding is overwhelmingly clear: Americans who are better informed and have a more accurate picture of lesbians and gays generally are far more supportive.

Thus, it becomes increasingly clear that in addition to meeting today's challenges—whether it be adoption, employment discrimination or hate crimes—gays and lesbians as individuals and as a community must recommit themselves to dispelling the long-running myths and misconceptions about what it is to be gay or lesbian. It is only through such a long-term educational effort—friend to friend, neighbor to neighbor, parent to parent—that gays and lesbians will achieve true equality. ▼

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## GOOD-BYE

MGW sales representative Jaede Miloslavich has accepted a job offer from Apple Computer. When our December 15th issue goes to press she will be starting her new job.

We at MGW will miss her dearly, but we all wish her success in her new position. She has been a delight to work with and we will no doubt still occasionally receive bits of her wit and wisdom in our Email.

To our friend and coworker Jaede, Good-bye!

the Staff at MGW News

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## "TELLING": Coming Out as the Child of a Gay or Lesbian Parent

Janet Lial Branson  
MGW/Staff

For kids, getting over the shock of finding out mom or dad is gay is only half the battle. Now your child has his or her own "coming out" to cope with. How will they tell their friends? What will everyone think? Children are impacted by the knowledge that mom or dad is gay and helping them to face their peers and the community is an important job for the gay parent.

**Why Tell?** Children within the same family will often approach telling differently. For some, not to tell may feel like a secret too big to keep. Others may feel the risks of telling are too great and decide the news is best kept secret. Some children may prefer to act as though nothing has changed even though mom and her new "roommate" sleep together in the same bed.

Kids generally keep things secret that they fear will negatively impact them. But keeping secrets can feel like a full-time job! Kids who choose to keep this secret will find themselves watching what they say, making up lies to cover up the secret, perhaps even saying, "That's my uncle Jack who lives with us," rather than admitting that it's dad's boyfriend. Kids who choose to keep secrets may find that not telling is as hard as telling.

Secrets foster a sense of shame. Issues that feel too embarrassing or socially "loaded" to talk about, make children feel that something is wrong with their parent and therefore something is wrong with them. This secrecy can lead to social isolation and an increased sense of unhappiness. If there is gay literature or rainbow paraphernalia prominently displayed, kids may worry about what their friends will think. Your child may worry that mom's girlfriend "dresses too much like a man!" or that dad's boyfriend "looks gay." It's hard to invite other kids over when you are trying to hide your parent's lifestyle.

**Fears About Telling:** What is it that kids fear most about telling? "My friends will hate me! They won't want to be friends with



me any more." If kids hear their friends making derogatory remarks about gays or lesbians or casually using the word gay to mean "different" or "bad," children will want to protect their parents and themselves from this kind of rejection. Even if the child's peers seem accepting, their friend's parents may have concerns that must also be dealt with. Fear of losing friends is a significant concern. "If they find out my mom or dad is gay, they'll think I'm gay!" Guilt by association. Even though we can assure our children that their sexuality is separate from ours, we can't protect them from other people's ignorance. Many children fear being thought of as gay or lesbian even if they stick up for gay rights or challenge derogatory remarks, so to actually tell others about their parent, increases the risks of being judged or taunted.

The fears children have about

coming out as the child of a gay or lesbian are often not different than the fears we had in our own coming out journey. Problem solving and helping kids to name their fears may be helpful with some children.

But older children may refuse to talk openly with you about it.

Like you, they will have to find their own way through the coming out process.

**It's Not All Bad:** Sometimes, in telling, children will experience some pleasant surprises. Children sometimes sell their friends short and may be pleasantly surprised by their attitudes. When told of a gay parent, "That's the big secret?" may be the reply. Sharing with select peers what rainbow flags signify or the term "family" may allow some kids to feel that they have special knowledge and a way of communicating that sets them apart allowing for privileged communication. Some kids tell without telling and find that it's not a big deal. "Does your mom's roommate sleep in the same room with her?" "Yeah...Want to play

Nintendo?" "Sure, let's go!"


**Things to Consider:** Coming out isn't easy and it's no easier for our children. They risk the same things gay's and lesbian's do when coming out. Taking children's concerns seriously and helping them to consider who, when, and why to tell will help them to reduce the negatives and maximize the positive impacts of coming out.

Parents may inadvertently "out" their children. Being "outed" takes away choice and leaves one feeling out of control. As parents, it is important to consider how the public acknowledgment of being gay or lesbian can impact the children. Children may feel outed by having their parent's partner attend school functions, sports activities, or even going out in public together. As parents, being on the news or in the

paper in relation to gay events may expose our children whether or not they feel ready.

As children get older, telling often gets easier. With more choice about friends and more emotional separation from mom and dad, children develop their own identity separate from ours. Telling others about their parents becomes less threatening. Children naturally develop their own ability to discern who to tell and their own style about when to tell. But, until this comfort level is reached children's fears and concerns about telling should not be minimized. It may be very painful to parents to realize that what brings them happiness and a sense of validity may cause their children pain. ▼

Janet Lial Branson is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with a private practice in Midtown. She works with Individuals, Couples, and has a group for women over 30 coming out.



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## Having a Safe Holiday With Pets

By Joan B. Guertin  
MGW/Staff

They're here again...The Holiday's! Some welcome this time of the year because it means the opportunity to break bread and share time with good friends. It also is a stressful period because of our need to please everyone we know with the perfect gift or the perfect experience. Yup, no matter how you look at it, the Season arrives as a mixed blessing. Following are some of the things that I like to remind folks of that may make the this time a bit easier on the family pets.

With company coming, it is important to be aware of how your pets relate to strangers in the house. If Kitty is a nervous Nelly, make sure that she has a place away from the hustle and bustle. She may want to stay in the bedroom...and that is okay. Cats are particularly sensitive to upsets in the house and since they often aren't the most social of creatures, a place that is safe and quiet is the best place for them. If your guests have small children and your dogs haven't been well socialized around children, keep the two separate. It isn't fair to the dog to subject it to hounding and mauling just because company is present.

This is where the dog crate comes in handy or let the dog stay in your room or in the fenced back yard. Don't assume that your gentle dog will get along with children. When stressed, even the gentlest of dogs can be unpredictable. In addition, the dog that tolerates children out in the open on walks or at the park, will not be so generous in its own territory. Don't take chances!

On the other hand, the family pup may be a real social butterfly. The eagerness to greet guests at the door may be the first mistake

as dogs have a way of pushing quickly past legs at an open door and whoosh, they are gone! If you are expecting a number of guests, keep the family pooch out of harms way until the last guest has arrived, then invite him in to visit.

Beware the well meaning guest or family member who wants to share the festivities with your pets. The snacks we ingest are often harmful to animals. One of the greatest dangers to pets during the Holidays

must share your holiday meal, make sure that it is the fresh veggies on the relish tray!

Keep all chocolate out of reach. Animals are as attracted to chocolate just as we humans are and they will often eat the foil in order to reach the chocolate inside. The theobromine and caffeine contained in chocolate, may or may not be toxic to your pets, it is best to be safe rather than sorry.

If you notice rapid breathing and unusual hyperactivity, call the vet.

When family and friends gather we often get so distracted that we sometimes ignore the needs of the pets. Remember, when you can't watch your pets, keep them safe in an enclosed area. I like keeping my dogs around, but not under foot, so letting them be a part of things from the vantage of their crates works until everyone settles down, then I let them circulate.

Or, I may only allow one or two out at a time. The old dog gets tired out by too much company, so he retires to my room and his blanket when he's had enough. Of course, when we have

company is usually when my dogs love showing off. They will begin trotting out their repertoire of tricks, and the show begins.

A definite word needs to be added here about keeping pets safe around the Holiday decorations. If you have a tree and a cat, remember that the colored balls, the lights and the tinsel are all red flags. They will attract like magnets and can be deadly if broken or ingested. The November issue of DOG WATCH states that "The Winter holidays are fraught with potential perils for your dog." Dr. John Saidla, explains that electrocution is a major problem, especially with puppies who tend to be attracted to and chew wires. His advice in event of an incident is to first unplug the cord so you don't sustain a shock when you handle the dog, then immediately seek veterinary help. As far as I am concerned, the best course of action is preventative. Don't leave pups alone in a room with cords to chew. This is why we have crates,



PHOTO SHARON SPELLER

is fatty, greasy food, according to the Cornell University Newsletter, DOG WATCH. The foil from the turkey and the fatty skin, are temptations no dog can resist, therefore, dispose of them in the outside trash in a securely covered can as contact with them may lead to a case of acute pancreatitis. The onset is quick and is characterized by abdominal pain, vomiting and shock. Veterinary intervention immediately is necessary if the dog is to survive. It is better to be safe than sorry. If you

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In addition, 63 percent of those responding said they allow their pets to sleep with them.

"It's not surprising the love expressed by owners for their pets," states Dr. Dan Carey, a veterinarian, "Every day, we hear from people who tell us about the important bond they feel with their dog or cat."

Many of those queried provide special attention to their pets during the holidays. For example, 41 percent of the owners plan extra food treats, 19 percent will show extra love or attention, 16 percent plan to give toys or gifts to their pets.

The survey was the result of 400 respondents.

x-pens and back yards. You can spray cords with bitter apple, but I would much rather keep pets away from the cords altogether. I also want to prevent them from getting to the tree. For several years, when I had young puppies, I just put an x-pen around the tree! One year I elected to have a small tree that I put up on a table. However, nothing will keep a cat away from the tree, so keep a squirt bottle handy and when the cat ventures toward the balls or lights, zap with a stream of water and growl...AHGGGG! and watch the kitty skeddaddle! Of course, when you aren't there to supervise... no kitty in the same room as the tree.

If you are hooked on using candles during the holidays, make sure that they are up where the wagging tail of the dog can't knock it over! And, when unwrapping gifts, make sure that pets don't ingest wrappings or ties, they can impact the intestines if swallowed.

Remember too, that Holiday plants are potentially toxic, keep

them out of the reach of pets and pets away from them!

If a new puppy is in the plan for the holidays, remember that bringing a puppy home at the height of the holiday festivities is terribly stressful. It's best to plan on getting the holidays out of the way and THEN bring home that new puppy. Also, remember, a surprise gift of a live animal is never a good idea. People need to pick out their own pets to make sure that the personalities fit. Plus, others tastes aren't always the same as ours and what we think is a perfect pet may not fill the bill for a friend. Give gift certificates so they can pick out their own pet. Maybe a gift certificate that they can take to a local shelter or the SPCA. You can go along, be part of the process, but let them make their own choice...then you pay the bill! Works for me!

Have a joyful holiday season. Give the pooches a great big bone for the holiday and that wonderful kitty a soft new bed or a catnip toy...they are the easiest ones to please on your entire list!

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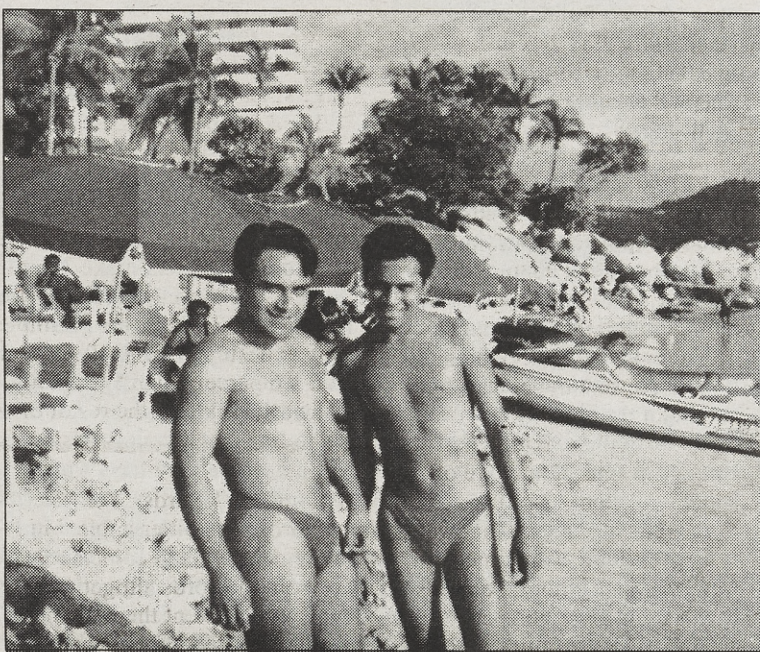
## Acapulco Shines After Hurricanes

Just weeks after hurricane Pauline hit this southern Mexican Pacific coastline, Acapulco is open for business. Hurricane Rick in early November hit south of Acapulco and the only effect was "a bit of rain" as one resident put it. Acapulco's Zona Dorado or golden zone is where most of the popular tourist hotels are, this is also the Gay area in the Condessa, Farallon sections of town. The Gay Beaches, Condessa and Beto's are clean and men are enjoying the sun with the shimmering blue waters of Acapulco Bay.

During the holidays is an excellent time to travel to Acapulco as many resorts and hotels are offering travel incentives and discounts. The lower value of the Peso affords the traveler better buy power per dollar. The food and other amenities often rival New York City or San Francisco and at a much lower prices. Since many travelers are unaware of the lack of damage cause by hurricanes Pauline and Rick to Acapulco, one of Mexico's premiere beach resort areas, a wise vacationer can take advantage of the deals which are available.

Nearly two million visitors come to Acapulco each year. The Acapulco Las Palmas Resort is one of the gay hotels offering vacation packages to travelers

Info: The Acapulco Las Palmas Resort, <http://www.acapulco-laspalmas.com>, e-mail: [laspalmas.com](mailto:laspalmas.com), telephone: 011-52 (74) 87-0843. ▼



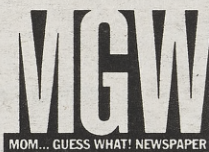
Bobby Joe and David Munsen, owners of The Acapulco Las Palmas Resort.

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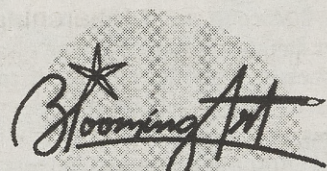
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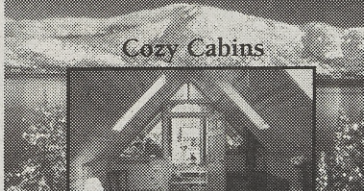


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**BLOOMING ART**, *Functional Fantasy*, Nov 17-Jan 3, 1901 Capitol Ave., 442-3800

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**CALIFORNIA GLASS STUDIO**, 1815 Silica Avenue, 925-4896

**CALIF. PALACE OF THE LEGION OF HONOR**, *Artists Prints*, Crown Prints Press, Oct. 4 - Jan 4, 1998, *Thirty-Five Years at Crown Point Press*, Oct 4-Jan 18, *Masters of Light: Dutch Painters in Utrecht during the Golden Age*, thru Nov 30; 34th Ave. & Clement St., San Francisco, 415/863-3330.

**CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART**, 1516 Del Paso Blvd., 444-9624

**CENTER FOR THE ARTS YERBA BUENA GARDENS**, *To Be Real*, Dec. 13-Mar. 1, 701 Mission Str., San Francisco, CA, 415-978-2700

**CROCKER ART MUSEUM**, *Studio Rodin*, thru Jan 25, 1998, *Paper, Plastic, Cowries and Coins!*, thru July 15, 1998, *An Indian Legacy: In Homage of William and Edith Cleary*, Dec. 12-Mar. 22, *Dreams and Traditions: British and Irish Painting*, Jan. 9-Mar. 9, 1998, *Crocker-Kinsley Exhibition*, Apr. 3-May 26, 1998, *Art of Angling: Fishing Prints*, Apr. 17-July 12, *Art of the Gold Rush*, June 20-Sept. 13, *Dutch and Flemish Drawing*, June 2-Aug. 30, Durer, Nov 12-Feb. 13, 1999.

**DE YOUNG MUSEUM**, *Morgan Flagg Collection*, Oct. 18 - Jan. 1998: "Art Of The Americas: Art and Ethnography", Dec - Mar. 1998; *Treasures of the Tervuren Museum*, Feb. 21, 1998 - Apr. 31, 1998; *John Stuart Curry: "Invading the Middle West"*, Jun 13, 1998 - Aug. 30, 1998; "The Wealth of the Thracians", Aug. 8, 1998 - Oct. 11, 1998, 75 Tea Garden Dr. S.F., 415/750-3614

**DOIRON GALLERY**, 1625 Del Paso Blvd., Grand Opening, Dec. 13, 8-11pm; Studio Works of Ken Potter; Making of Glass Beads, Craig & Donna Milliron; Works of Gallery Artists, 564-4433

**SOLOMON DUBNICK GALLERY**, *Print Drawing & Sculpture* by Cecilia Calmes; *New Works* by Gary Pruner, Nov. 6 - 29, 1997, *New Works* by Irving Marcus, Jan. 8 - 31, 1998; *New works* by Jack Ogden, Feb. 4 - 28, 1998, 2131 Northrop Ave., 920-4547, *The Bakery Suite, Ceramic Sculpture* by Jeff Nebeker, Mar. 5-28, *Figurative Works* by Helen Post and Alan Post, Apr. 2-25, *Mixed Media* by Sheldon Greenberg and *Sculpture* by Maru Hoerber, Apr 30-May 30, 2131 Northrop Ave., 920-4547

**GALERIA DE LA RAZA**, "Bazaar Navideno", Nov. - Dec. 24, Studio 24 2857 24th St., S.F., 425/826-8009

**MICHAEL HIMOVITZ GALLERY**, 1616 Del Paso Blvd., Suite 3, 929-7896

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**KZEE'S FRAMED ART**, Yolanda Barajas *Reality in Oil*, thru October, 2315 J St.

**MATRIX GALLERY**, Robin Bernstein & Cecilia Thorne, Nov 5-Dec 5, *Starving My Mother to Sleep Half Past Eight: A Memorial Performance*, Nov 7, *Globe Gallery* at 1017 Del Paso Blvd., *The Press Is Coming*, Dec 6, 1518 Del Paso Blvd., 923-9118

**MILLENNIUM ARTS GALLERY**, 138 Weeks Way, 707/829-5541

**RICHARD L. NELSON GALLERY**, Annabeth Roses, Thru 27, 124-125 Art Building U.C. Davis, 752-8500

**POSTCARDS ETC.**, Antoinette Desmarais, Nov. 8, 2101 L St., 446-8049

**THOMAS A. OLDHAM GALLERY**, *Annual Fishing Exhibition*, Nov 8-20, *Small Treasures Holiday Exhibit*, Nov 25-Dec 23, 1729 L St., 444-9624

**ILVER MINE CO.**, 154 N. Main St. Sebastopol, 707/829-2416

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**STILL LIFE GALLERY**, Lillian Keller, Lisa Marchand, Christian Quentin, Nov 8, 6pm, 2231 J St., 446-6786

**TOWER ART GALLERY**, Lisa Carpenter, Nov 22, 5pm, 484 Howe Ave, 924-1001

**VIEWPOINT GALLERY**, 551 Sequoia Pacific Blvd., 441-2341

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[illegible]

In a recent issue of *The Advocate*, columnist Lillian Faderman lamented the lack of visibility of older gays and lesbians, writing, "Imagine public representations that illustrated that we don't stop being lesbian or gay when we're 60 or 70, or 80. It would be worth living to 100 to see that." Two recently published books make a dent in the dearth of material about the older community. **Gay and Gray** touts itself as "the first and only scholarly full-length treatment of older gay men in America today." It asserts that most older gay men are well-adjusted to their homosexuality and the aging process, and dispels the stereotype some may hold that older gay men are lonely, non-sexual creatures. Less scholarly and more subjective, **Lesbian Passages** (previously published as *Long Time Passing*) is a collection of inspirational and emotional essays containing accounts of growing older as a lesbian in our society. Both for older gays and lesbians who long to see their experience validated in a book and for their younger counterparts who long for the wisdom of elders to light the passages that come, these books are an exploration and a celebration of life, love and longevity. ▼

**MGW/Staff**

*I Knew You Would Call* by Kate Allen is not so much a mystery novel, as a novel which happens to have a mystery in it. Veteran armchair sleuths probably won't be sweating too much over the clues — the whodunit portion of the book is kind of lightweight.

Some oddball characters and controversial situations make Allen's book, if not mysterious, at least realistic. Hard-core mystery fans will have to decide if this is enough motivation to keep turning pages to get to the end or just move on to the new Katherine V. Forrest novel instead.

Marta Goicochea is the unlikely leading lesbian of *I Knew You Would Call*. Marta is a depressed, unwashed, unmotivated Basque psychic who seems hardly capable of brushing her teeth, much less solving a murder mystery. She's not a swashbuckling super-Amazon; on the contrary she makes five bucks an hour working a sleazy psychic hotline that certainly has never been touted by Dionne Warwick. But she is real. Just how much you like a heroine who hasn't taken a shower in a week because she's depressed about losing an abusive lover, will be the factor that determines whether you want to read on.

In some respects, Allen's novel is a welcome relief to all those fairy-tale lesbian novels where the sex is always good and the women are always bigger than life. Marta and her sidekick/cousin/best friend Mary Clare, a butchy, leather-clad dyke who plays the cello, don't rely so much on money or education to get by as they do on loyal friendships and gut feelings. They don't live in the burbs; they live in a section of Denver, Colorado that sounds a lot like Midtown—the rent is cheap and the neighbors creepy.

The mystery plays second banana to a host of controversial situations that Allen treats with refreshing honesty. One sub-plot involves a pack of skinheads that live across the street from a Victorian household of assorted dykes. Boo, hiss -- the skinheads' irrational hatred of the lesbians is repulsive, and yet, Allen also manages to show a little bit of their human side, much as we may not want to see it. Still, the comeuppance bestowed upon the unruly gang's top dog is perversely satisfying; it's the accidental kind of revenge that we all might like to inflict on the bad guys at one time or another.

Allen also tackles the controversial topics of incest and the selective memories of its victims; depression; abusive lovers and their partners; being out in a sometimes hostile world. And she explores the realm of psychic abilities. Agent Scully might pooh-poo them on the X files, but not Allen. Marta's psychic powers are undeveloped, but they are undoubtedly real, and it's interesting to see her struggle with her acceptance of this unusual curse/gift.

And oh, yes, the mystery. The villains are suitably repugnant and the crime is solved due partly to old-fashioned footwork and to a little booga-booga, New Age Stuff as well. But, ultimately, what'll determine if you like *"I Knew You Would Call"* is whether you're looking for a good mystery novel or simply a good novel. ▼

\$12.95 paperback, 150 pages.

**Carin G. Aichele**

The Majority of Lesbians can relate to Louise Raffin's purpose for creating *Different Daughters*. She humorously writes of "de-dyking" the house, "ridding it of evidence", and warning roommates about "slips in conversation." Most of us have experienced this and longed for the day mom could be on the stoop ringing the doorbell without there being chaos before letting her in! *Different Daughters* offers a compilation of 25 essays written by mothers who respond to questions of how to come to terms with acceptance of their Lesbian daughters. The essays are varied, with a multi-cultural cross section of writing from women with unique and yet common backgrounds. As a place to start for the mother who has been newly introduced to her daughters sexuality, the book is personal, emotional, and speaks honestly about the process of acceptance. If nothing else, the confused, angry, silenced, outcaste mother will gain a sense of relatedness.

Unfortunately, mixed in these brave essays is an underlying tone of tolerance. One mother writes "I didn't feel threatened by her choice, but I really wondered how she knew, how she made the decision." I hesitate to empower a mother with the misperception that her lesbian daughter has chosen this alternative lifestyle and the poor mother is burdened with acceptance. While this less than accepting tone presents itself undisguised to the lesbian reader as well as mothers who have been around the block on the issue, it may not be the perception of the mother freshly open to understanding her confused feelings.

Balancing the issues of choice, decision and tolerance are many expressions of true acceptance. From a woman whose daughter "came out" on major network television..."I have found that because my daughter is "out", I am freed so that I may speak up..." Another mother who feels she has reached a loving acceptance of her lesbian daughter hopes that her daughter will in turn accept the road she traveled to find that acceptance. In perhaps one of the most emotive essays the mother writes: "I don't imagine babies have been born whose parents had no agenda for them, for better or worse. I suspect that few parents when presented with pink bundles by cooing nurses, have foreseen lesbianism as their daughters' sexual choice."

I have the fortune of having a truly loving and accepting mother who was open to reading the book. She offered much of the insight contained in this review. Her initial reaction was one of discontent as she noted (without input from me) the tone of tolerance that I suggest above. While both of use would share *Different Daughters* with a friend, we would encourage both mother and daughter to work together to attain the highest level of understanding and acceptance of each other's feelings, like a multitude of issues caught in the complexity of being outside of the "social norm", acceptance of lesbianism requires exposure and understanding. In *Different Daughters*, both mother and daughter will find a ray of light on the sometimes dark emotional journey from rejection to tolerance and finally to acceptance. ▼

# Party of the Century

## The Penguin Book of Inter-

## national Gay Writing

Edited by Mark Mitchell

New York: Penguin

**\$14.95, paperback**

**Chloe Plus Olivia: An Anthology of Lesbian Literature**

**Literature**  
edited by Lillian Faderman

New York: Penguin, 1995.

New York: Penguin  
\$16.95, paperback

**Reviewed by: Jennifer L. Selig**

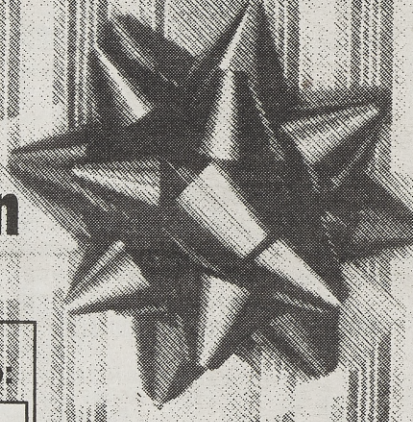
**MGW/Staff**

Reading from an anthology instead of a book is a little like snacking rather than eating a full meal. If you're just a little hungry, or short on time or patience for a fuller experience, these two groundbreaking anthologies published by Penguin Books may sate your appetite with their variety of short stories, essays and poems, as well as provide you with more confirmation that yes, we are everywhere in every culture in every time experiencing the full range of love and sexuality. Or, as David Levitt describes the anthology in his introduction to *The Penguin Book of International Gay Writing*, it is "a riotous party, an unmasked ball. It is a long party—it is still going on—with an amazing variety of guests. It is full of arguments; it is street smart and piss elegant; it is loud with the noises of lovemaking. Really, it is the party of twenty-five centuries."

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# CALENDAR

# December '97

## 15 MONDAY

KARAOKE NIGHT, 9pm - 1am, The Mirage, 15 & F St., 444-3238SAC.  
FRONTRUNNERS & WALKERS, CSUS, 6:30pm, 974-8199SAC.  
WOMEN'S CHORUS, 6:30pm, 424-4411,  
MEN'S COMING OUT SUPPORT GROUP, Lambda Comm. Cr., 6pm, 442-0185;  
DELA MORTE DEL AMORE (Cemetery Man): Old Ironsides, 1901 10<sup>th</sup> Str., 442-3504

## 16 TUESDAY

FACES PRESENTS: Witness The Carnage Video Karaoke W/Duchess, 448-7798  
G/L SOLONO-YOLO GAY MEN'S ALLIANCE, 7:30pm, Fairfield, 707/449-0847,  
NANCY MANAHAN/BECKY BOHAN, Lioness Books, 2224 J St., 7pm, 442-4657;  
POETRY READING GROUP, The Open Book, 910 21<sup>st</sup> Str., 498-1004, 7:30pm,  
SAC PFLAG MEETING, St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 2391 St. Mark's Way, 978-0410;  
CELEBRATE WINTER: STORIES OF KWANZAA WITH KATY E. RIDGEWAY, Colonial Heights Library, 4799 Stockton Blvd., 4pm, 264-2770 ;  
WHITE ROOM, SECTION 8, BOSSANOVAS: Old Ironsides, 1901 10<sup>th</sup> Str., 442-3504;  
MACNEXUS MACINTOSH USERS GROUP, 2003 How Ave, 6:30pm, 455-4MAC

## 17 WEDNESDAY

LGBA MEETING, Carrows on 10th & S St., 863-9733SAC.  
FRONTRUNNERS & WALKERS, McKinley Park, 6:30pm, 974-8199  
WOMEN'S COMING OUT GROUP, 7pm, Lioness Books,

NAMES PROJECT MEMBERSHIP MEETING, Pioneer Church, 27<sup>th</sup> and L Str., 6:30pm, 484-5646, 2224 J St., 944-DYKE;  
WOMEN'S READING GROUP, The Open Book, 910 21<sup>st</sup> Str., 498-1004, 7pm;  
CELEBRATE WINTER: STORIES OF KWANZAA WITH KATY E. RIDGEWAY, Southgate Library, 6132 66<sup>th</sup> Ave., 4pm, 264-2770;  
THE MOE BETTERMAN SHOW: Old Ironsides, 1901 10<sup>th</sup> Str., 422-3504;

WOMEN'S WISDOM PROJECT AT WILD OATS COMMUNITY MARKET, 5104 Arden Way, 10am, 481-1955

## 18 THURSDAY

BEING GAY TODAY, Channel 73, 10pm,  
CGNIE CASINO NIGHT, 8pm, 863-3392;  
FALL HIV BIG EVENT,UCDMC Cancer Center Auditorium, 4501 X Str, 4pm, 443-3299 ext. 1400;  
ELECTRIC TRASH READING CLUB, The Open Book, 910 21<sup>st</sup> Str., 498-1004, 7:30pm;  
DAVID ROBBINS ORGANIST RECITAL: St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 15<sup>th</sup> and J Str.'s, Noon, 446-2620;  
CELEBRATE WINTER: HANUKKAH TALES WITH NOA BAUM, Fair Oaks Library, 11601 Fair Oaks, 4pm, 264-2770;  
NECTAR, FURIOUS JORGE: Old Ironsides, 1901 10<sup>th</sup> Str., 442-3504

## 19 FRIDAY

BEING GAY TODAY, Channel 73, 4pm  
VERONA VILLAGE PRESENTS:, Ladies Night, 9pm-2am, with DJ Joey, 448-7798;  
SWEET SEDUCTIONS, The Open Book, 910 21<sup>st</sup> Str., 498-1004, 7:30pm;  
KDVS BENEFIT, Old Ironsides, 1901 10<sup>th</sup> Str., 442-3504

## 20 SATURDAY

BEING GAY TODAY, Channel 73, 10am  
EAGLES WALKING GROUP, 991-2420SAC.  
FRONTRUNNERS & WALKERS, Guy West Bridge, 9am, 974-8199;  
BOOKSIGNING: PATRICIAL NELL WARREN, The Open Book, 910 21<sup>st</sup> Str., 498-1004, 2pm;  
KDVS BENEFIT: Old Ironsides, 1901 10<sup>th</sup> Str., 442-3504;  
G/L SIERRANS BIRDING AT NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, 668-0691;  
GSAC GENERAL MEETING, St. Matthews Church, 7pm, 723-8644

## 21 SUNDAY

ASIAN PACIFIC SISTERHOOD MEETING, 753-6093  
FACES PRESENTS: 5-8pm, Coast to Coast Karaoke Challenge, 448-7798;  
CARIBBEAN FOLK TALES WITH A TWIST OF ST. NICK: Central Library, 828 I Str., 2pm, 264-2770;

SUNDAY NIGHT DANCE PARTY: Old Ironsides, 1901 10<sup>th</sup> Str., 442-3504;  
SACRAMENTO MANS CHOIR CONCERT: Riverside Wesleyan Church, 6449 Riverside Blvd, 3:30 & 7pm, 391-9845;  
JOSEPH'S SUNDAY BRUNCH, 1454 Del Paso Blvd, 9am, 922-8899

## 22 MONDAY

KARAOKE NIGHT, 9pm - 1am, The Mirage, 15 & F St., 444-3238SAC.  
FRONTRUNNERS & WALKERS, CSUS, 6:30pm, 974-8199SAC.  
WOMEN'S CHORUS, 6:30pm, 424-4411,  
MEN'S COMING OUT SUPPORT GROUP, Lambda Comm. Cr., 6pm, 442-0185;  
HOLIDAY BAZAR AND CRAFT FAIR, The Town House, 1517 21<sup>st</sup> Str, 441-5122;  
SILENT NIGHT HOLY NIGHT, old Ironsides, 1901 10<sup>th</sup> Str., 442-3504

## 23 TUESDAY

FACES PRESENTS: Witness The Carnage Video Karaoke W/Duchess, 448-7798  
SAC. CITY COLLEGE G/L STUDENT ALLIANCE, 3835 Freeport Blvd. Room A-7, 12pm, 456-2722  
SOLONO-YOLO GAY MEN'S ALLIANCE, 7:30pm, Fairfield, 707/449-0847; 451,  
LES DYSTICS, MYNALL: Old Ironsides, 1901 10<sup>th</sup> Str., 442-3504

## 24 WEDNESDAY

FIRST DAY OF HANUKKAH  
SAC. FRONTRUNNERS & WALKERS, McKinley Park, 6:30pm, 974-8199  
WOMEN'S COMING OUT GROUP, 7pm, Lioness Books 2224 J St., 944-DYKE;  
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE, Spritual Community Center, Rocklin, 7:30pm, 889-1979; RIVER CITY M.C.C.  
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES: Crest Theater, K Street Mall, 8pm and 11pm

VERONA VILLAGE PRESENTS: Ladies Night, 9pm-2am, with DJ Joey, 448-7798

## 27 SATURDAY

BEING GAY TODAY, Channel 73, 10am  
EAGLES WALKING GROUP, 991-2420  
DAVID MAHR, Performing live at Open Book, 910 21st Street, 7:30pm  
SAC. FRONTRUNNERS & WALKERS, Guy West Bridge, 9am, 974-8199,  
WINTER NATURE WALK, Ancil Hoffman Park, 6700 Tarshes Dr., Carmichael, 1:30pm;  
ZOPPI, SOLARFACE: Old Ironsides, 1901 10<sup>th</sup> Str., 442-3504

## 28 SUNDAY

FACES PRESENTS: 5-8pm, Coast to Coast Karaoke Challenge, 448-7798, CONCERT, Davis Unitarian Church, 27074 Patwin Rd, 4pm, 661-2442,  
BARN OWL, Ancil Hoffman Park, 6700 Tarshes Dr., Carmichael, 1:30pm;  
DANCE PARTY: Old Ironsides, 1901 10<sup>th</sup> Str., 442-3504;  
JOSEPH'S SUNDAY BRUNCH, 1454 Del Paso Blvd, 9am, 922-8899

## 29 MONDAY

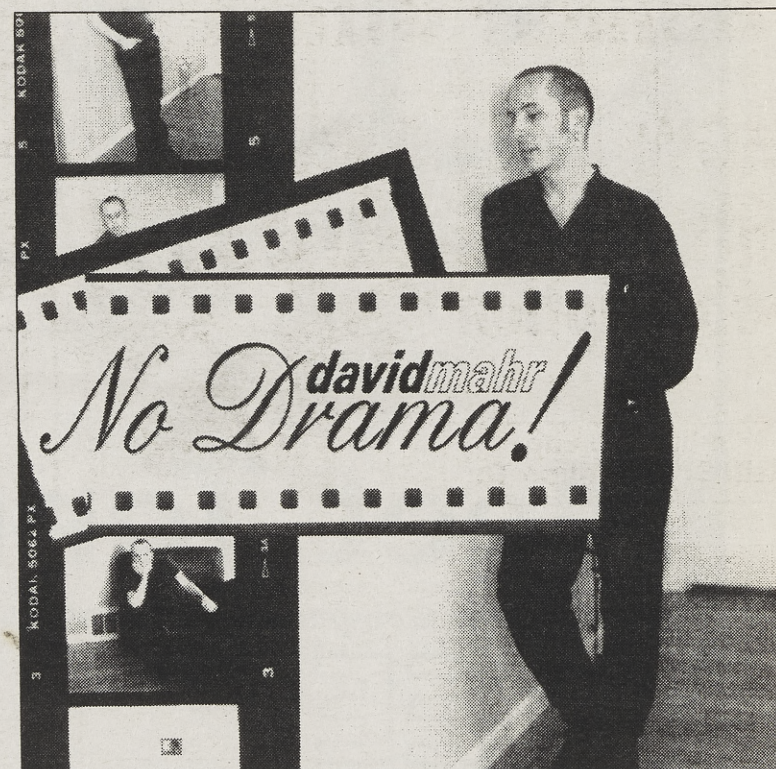
KARAOKE NIGHT, 9pm - 1am, The Mirage, 15 & F St., 444-3238  
SAC. FRONTRUNNERS & WALKERS, CSUS, 6:30pm, 974-8199SAC.  
WOMEN'S CHORUS, 6:30pm, 424-4411,  
MEN'S COMING OUT SUPPORT GROUP, Lambda Comm. Cr., 6pm, 442-0185;  
SANTO IN THE WAX MUSEUM: Old Ironsides, 1901 10<sup>th</sup> Str., 442-3504

## 30 TUESDAY

FACES PRESENTS:, Witness The Carnage Video Karaoke W/Duchess, 448-7798

## MGW Newspaper is looking for...

- Copy Editor**  
Edit stories, cutting them, rewrites and proof reading.
- Political/Investigative Reporter**  
Reporters not afraid to search for the truth. **Paid** on publication.
- Interviewers**  
Like meeting people? Can you write? A Camera with flash a plus.
- Book Reviewers**  
Enjoy reading? We need help! MGW receives an explosion of books. Short reveiws must be well written. **Salary:** Free books.
- Parenting/Children Writer/Editor**  
Write or edit stories on and about children, parenting, adoption, etc.
- Sports Writer/Editor**  
Cover sporting events, gay games, running, bicycle and other events.



David Mahr performing live at Open Book on December 27, 7:30pm

## 25 THURSDAY

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
BEING GAY TODAY, Channel 73, 10pm  
26 FRIDAY  
FIRST DAY OF KWANZAA  
BOXING DAY (CANADA)BEING GAY TODAY, Channel 73, 4pm;  
AIRWAVES, ACID GROOVE, FEST, ETC: Old Ironsides, 1901 10<sup>th</sup> Str., 442-3504;

SAC. CITY COLLEGE G/L STUDENT ALLIANCE, 3835 Freeport Blvd. Room A-7, 12pm, 456-2722  
SOLONO-YOLO GAY MEN'S ALLIANCE, 7:30pm, Fairfield, 707/449-0847;  
POETRY READING CLUB, The Open Book, 910 21<sup>st</sup> Str., 498-1004, 7:30pm;  
GAVINS ALL STAR JAM: Old Ironsides, 1901 10<sup>th</sup> Str., 442-3504



# CALENDAR

## 31 WEDNESDAY

SAC. FRONTRUNNERS & WALKERS, McKinley Park, 6:30pm, 974-8199  
WOMEN'S COMING OUT GROUP, 7pm, Lioness Books 2224 J St., 944-DYKE, DOT, New Years Celebration, 8:30pm, 726-3640,  
WOODLAND OPERA HOUSE NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA PARTY, Woodland Opera House, Woodland, CA, 8pm, 666-9618,

NEW YEAR'S EVE BURNING BOWL SERVICE, Spiritual Community Center, Rocklin, 7:30pm, 889-1979;  
RAINBOW BALL DINNER & DANCE, Chico, CA, 893-3336;  
OLEANDER, THE BRODYS, MAGNOLIA, ETC: Old Ironsides, 1901 10<sup>th</sup> Str., 442-3504

## JANUARY

## 1 THURSDAY

NEW YEARS DAY

## 2 FRIDAY

VERONA VILLAGE PRESENTS: Ladies Night, 9pm-2am, with DJ Joey, 448-7798

## 3 SATURDAY

EAGLES WALKING GROUP, 991-2420;  
MACNEXUS MACINTOSH USERS GROUP WORKSHOP, 4623 T Str., 8:30am, 455-4MAC;  
G/L SIERRANS BACKCOUNTRY SKIING, 688-0691

## 4 SUNDAY

FACES PRESENTS: 5-8pm, Coast to Coast Karaoke Challenge, 448-7798; J OSEPH'S SUNDAY BRUNCH, 1454 Del Paso Blvd, 9am, 922-8899

## 10 SATURDAY

EAGLES WALKING GROUP, 991-2420,  
DOT, Video Night, 5pm, 927-4907,  
CGNIE BODY & SOUL AWARDS, Josephs, 8pm, 863-3392; G/L SIERRANS BACKCOUNTRY SKIING, 668-0691

## 11 SUNDAY

FACES PRESENTS: 5-8pm, Coast to Coast Karaoke Challenge, 448-7798,  
GAY DADS OF SAC, Lambda Center, 919 19<sup>th</sup> Str, 6pm, 456-DADS (3237),  
DOT, Planning Meeting, 10am, 863-0852;  
JOSEPH'S SUNDAY BRUNCH, 1454 Del Paso Blvd, 9am, 922-8899; G/L SIERRANS DOWNHILL AND TELEMARLING SKIING, 668-0691

## 12 MONDAY

MEN'S COMING OUT SUPPORT GROUP, "CIRCLE", featuring: Diane Patterson, Natalie Cortez, Kelly Conway, Laura Bowly, Amy Simpson, Alice Stuart, Zoe Lewis and her Rubber Band, Fox & Goose Public House, 10<sup>th</sup> & R Str., 8:00pm, 443-8825;

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR CALENDAR LISTINGS:  
Nonprofit organizations may list events in MGW's calendar at no cost. Please send info at least 10 working days prior to desired publish date in the following format: event, sponsor, place, time, cost, phone. Mail to MGW Calendar Editor, 1725 L St., Sacramento CA 95814. Those individuals, businesses, or organizations wishing to list "for profit events" and activities should call 441-6397. ▼

## THEATRE/DANCE/SYMPHONY

**THE ACTING COMPANY**, *The Miracle Worker*, Nov. 14 - Dec. 7, 815 B. St. Yuba City

**THE ACTOR'S WORKSHOP**, "8<sup>th</sup> Annual Moment-To-Moment, An Evening of Comedy", Thru Nov 16, God Bless Us All, thru Dec. 28, 1616 Del Paso, 446-2622

**AMERICAN RIVER COLLEGE THEATRE**, *Good*, Nov 20-30, *The Miracle Worker*, Feb 27-Mar 8, *Torch Song Trilogy*, Apr 24-May 3, 383-4476

**BERKELEY COMMUNITY THEATRE**, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, Nov 14-16, Allston at Milvia Str., Berkeley, 415-433-6461

**THE B STREET THEATRE**, *Vigil*, Oct 12-Nov 16, 2711 B Str., 443-5300

**CAMELLIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**, *Brahms and Mahler*, Nov 22, 8pm, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1300 N Str., 264-5181

**CHAUTAUQUA'S PLAYHOUSE**, *The Haunting of Hill House*, Oct 24 - Nov 29; *Sticks and Stones*, Dec. 7 - Dec. 27; *The Settler*, Jan 16 - Feb. 21; *The Miracle Worker*, Mar. 6 - Apr. 11; *Gaslight*, Apr. 24 - May 30, 5325 Engle Rd., Carmichael, 489-PLAY

**CHRISTMAS CAVALCADE**, *Top Ten Holiday Hits*, Nov 28-Dec 1, 8pm, Marines Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter Str., SF, 415-771-6900

**COSUMNES RIVER COLLEGE VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**, *Ghost Dance*, Nov 13, *The Miser*, Apr 24, *Redwood Curtain*, July 9, 8401 Center Parkway, 688-7364

**CREST THEATRE**, *Lillies*, Starts Nov. 14, 1031 K Str., 44-Crest

**CSUS THEATRE**, *Jumbo* Oct 16 - 26, *Arcadia* Oct. 30 - Nov. 6, *Shadow Of A Man* Nov 20 - Dec. 6, 278-6368, *Colloquium Concert*, Oct 16, 4:15pm, 278-6514

**DAVIS COMIC OPERA COMPANY**, *Ruddigore*, Oct 17-26, Veterans' Memorial Theater, Davis, 758-5984

**EXECUCHEF CATERERS DINNER THEATRE**, *Wheel of Misfortune*, thru Oct 11, 8144 Auburn Blvd., Citrus Heights, 676-8970

**GARBEAU'S DINNER THEATRE**, *Forever Plaid*, Sept. 19 - Nov 23, *The 1940's Radio Hour*, Nov. 28 - Jan 11, 1998, *The Ruby Slippers*, Thru Jan 11, 12401 Folsom Blvd, Rancho Cordova, 985-6361

**GEERY THEATRE/LAMBDA PLAYERS**, *Krasnyj Pinata*, Nov 7-22, *Close To Glenn*, Nov. 14 - Dec. 13, *The Captive*, Feb. 6 - March 7, *The Sum Of Us*, April 3 - 25, *Finding*, May 15 - June 6, 22nd & L, 448-9019

**LUNA'S CAFE**, *New Wave 1-Act Festival*, Oct 4-25, 7pm, 1414 16<sup>th</sup> Str, 922-9774

**NAPA VALLEY SYMPHONY**, *Mariko Anraku*, Nov 16, *Holiday Concert Series*, Dec 7, Lincoln Theater, California Veterans Home, Yountville, CA, 707-226-8742

**NEW CONSERVATORY THEATER**, *Dirty Little Showtunes!*, Nov 20-Jan 31, 8 pm, 25 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA, 415-552-5701

**OAKLAND BALLET**, *The Secret Garden*, Oct 17-19, 8pm, *Nutcracker*, Dec 12-28, 7pm, Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland, CA, 415-252-5900

**RIVER STAGE**, *Consumes River College*, 688-7364

**SACRAMENTO AREA REGIONAL THEATRE ALLIANCE**, *Shakespeare Workshop*, Nov 1-22, 10am, *Acting Round Table*, Nov 29, Dec 13, Jan 10, 10am, SARTA Library, 2120 Royale Rd, 925-3303

**SACRAMENTO MEN'S CHORUS**, *Glorious*, Dec 19-20, 8pm, First United Methodist Church., *Bach to Bach*, Mar 14, 8pm, Mar 15, 3pm, First United Methodist Church, 2100 J Str., *Be-Bop and Bobby Sox*, June 12-13, 8pm, June 14, 3pm, Musicians Union Hall, 1925 Del Paso Blvd.,

**SACRAMENTO OPERA COMPANY**, *Barber of Seville*, Community Center, Nov 21-25, 264-5291

**SACRAMENTO THEATRE COMPANY**, *Dracula*, Oct 28-Nov. 23, *Confessions of a Nightingale*, Oct 28-Nov 2, Dec 2-7, *Undressing New Jersey*, Oct 14-19, Nov 25-30, Dec 9-14, *By and with Howard Buten*, Nov 4-9, Nov 11-16, *Dancing on the Rings of Saturn*, Oct 21-16, Nov 18-28, Dec 16-21, *Over the Tavern*, Oct 13-Feb 8, *Hometown Heroes*, Feb 17-Apr 26, *Hamlet*, Mar 24-Apr 19, *The Roar of the Grease-paint - The Smell of the Crowd*, May 5-31, *A Christmas Carol*, Dec 6-24, 1419 H Str., 443-6722, 888-4STCTIX

**SACRAMENTO BALLET**, *Brown Bag & Ballet*, Oct 16, 12:30-1:30pm, *Imperial Variations*, Oct 23-25, *Cinderella*, Oct 25-26, *Nutcracker Character Breakfast*, Nov 22-23, Nordstrom's Cafe, Arden Fair Mall, 8:30-10:00am, 552-5800

**SACRAMENTO CITY ACTOR'S THEATRE**, *Corpse*, Oct 3-25, *Alice In Wonderland*, Oct 18-Nov 22, *The Secret Garden*, Nov 7-Dec 13, *The Littlest Angel*, Dec 6-21, 3835 Freepoint Blvd, 558-2228

**SACRAMENTO PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA**, *Tchaikovsky: 1812 Overture*, Oct. 17-18, Community Center Theater, 264-5181

**SACRAMENTO REPERTORY THEATRE**, 5101 Lawrence Dr., 457-8827.

**SACRAMENTO YOUTH SYMPHONY AND ACADEMY OF MUSIC**, *HOLIDAY CONCERT*, Dec 14, 3pm, Hiram Johnson Theatre, 65<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Ave, 388-5777

**THE FANTASY THEATRE**, *Caribbean Folktales for Children*, Oct 18, B Street Theatre, 646-1545

**THE STUDIO THEATRE**, *Six Women With Brain Death*, thru Oct 23, 1028 R St., 446-2668

**THE THISTLE DEW DESSERT THEATRE**, *True West*, Oct 17-31 Nov 1-15, 1901 P Str., 652-4086

**THEATRE EL DORADO**, *Working*, thru Oct 25, El Dorado County Fair Grounds, 100 Placerville Dr., Placerville, CA, 625-5193

**THE PALMS IN DAVIS**, *Judy Fjell*, Nov 22, *David Lindley*, Nov 23, *Mumbo Gumbo*, Nov 28, *Maria Muldaur*, Nov 29, *Austin Lounge Lizards*, Dec 2, *Chris webster w/ Nina Gerber*, Dec 4, *Kelly Joe Phelps*, Dec 5, *The Bobs*, Dec 6, *Cheryl Wheeler*, Dec 11, *Joe Craven and Rob Ickes*, Dec 19, *John McCutcheon*, Jan 13

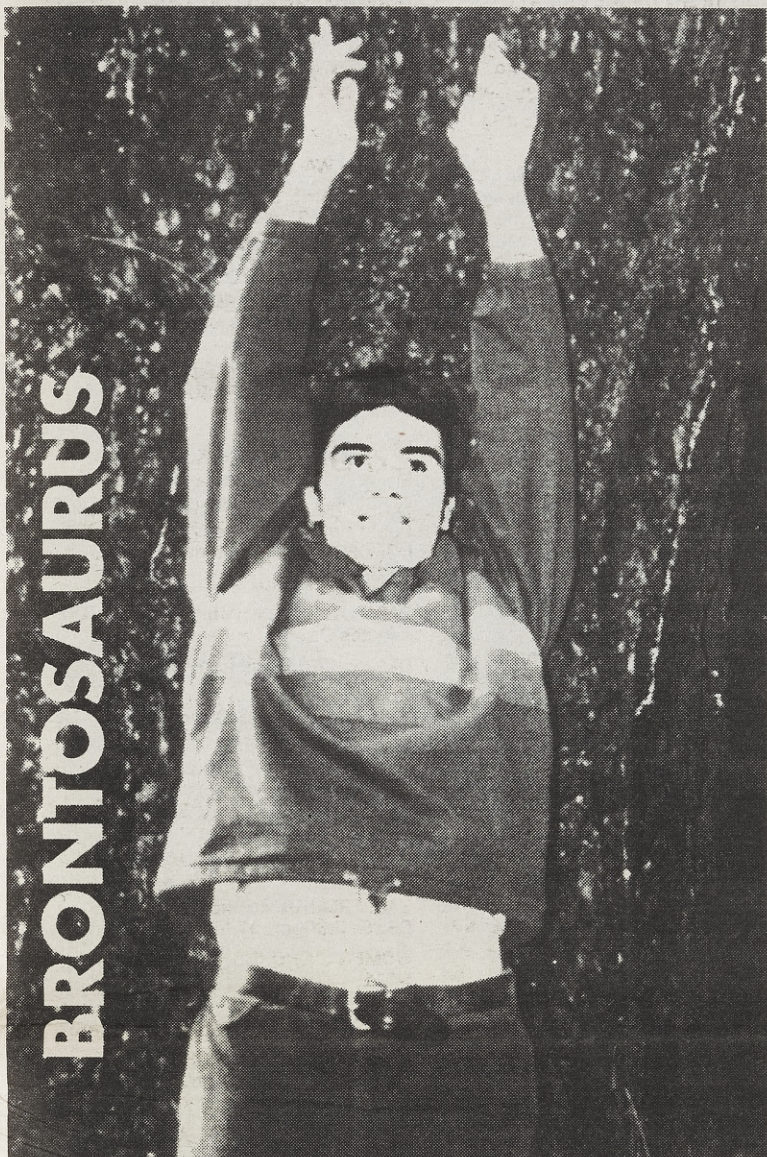
**THEATRE RHINOCEROS**, *Blue Plate Special*, Nov 1-23, 8:30 pm, *The Last Hairdresser*, Nov 8-Dec 6, *A Thanksgiving Visitor*, Nov 24, *A Christmas Memory*, Dec 15, 2926 16<sup>th</sup> Str., San Francisco, CA, 415-861-5079

**THEATRE ZOE**, Davis, 759-7129

**UC DAVIS PRESENTS**, *Do Jump! Movement Theatre*, Nov 9, Freeporn Hall, UC Davis, 3pm, *Kathleen Battle*, Nov 15, 8pm, Sacramento Community Center Theatre, *Gospel Hummingbirds*, Dec. 6, Varsity Theatre, *Stefan Milenkovich (Violin)*, Dec. 5, Kleiber Hall, *Danny Hoch*, Jan. 16, Main Theatre, *Streb/Ringside*, Jan. 22 & 23, Main Theatre, *Tokyo String Quartet*, Jan. 10, Freeborn Hall, *Kaila Flexer & Third Ear*, Jan. 30, Varsity Theatre, *Christopher Parkening (Guitar)*, Jan. 24, Freeborn Hall, 752-1915 or 752-7117

**WOMEN'S PHILHARMONIC**, *Switching Stations*, Nov 15, *Overture (1830)*, Feb 7, *Brass With Class*, Mar 7, *Suite from the Ballet*, May 2, Herbst Theater, 401 Van Ness Ave, San Francisco, CA 415-437-0123

**WOODLAND OPERA HOUSE**, *Much Ado About Nothing*, Nov. 7-29, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, Dec. 12-21, *New Years Eve Gala*, Dec. 31, *Steel Magnolias*, Jan 30-Feb 21, 1998, *West Side Story*, Mar 20-Apr 11, 1998, *The Sensuous Senator*, May 15-Jun. 6, 1998



Chris Linsay in Lanford Wilson's Brontosaurus at the Geary Theater December 26-27 and January 2-3

## Holiday Gift Idea

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## MASTER CALENDAR

World AIDS Day, ..... Dec. 1  
Gay Games Amsterdam, ..... 1 - 8, 1998, (for travel arrangements call 361-2051)  
A Hollywood Affair, March 23, 1998 ..... SAF, 448-2434, Ext 228  
The Legendary Gatsby Summer Gala, August 1998 ..... SAF, 448-2437, Ext 228  
Capitol AIDS Walk, September 1998 ..... SAF, 448-2437, Ext 228  
Let the community know about your 1997 - 98 event now!  
Send info to MGW, 1725 L St., Sac., 95814.

Let the community know about your  
1998 - 99 event NOW!

Send info to

MGW, 1725 L St. Sacramento 95814



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## 30 ▼ Mom Guess What Newspaper ▼ December 15, 1997



# VOICE PERSONALS

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\$1.99 per minute, must be 18 years of age. Info: (916) 441-6397

### MEN SEEKING MEN

**A BIT FRUSTRATED**  
GWM, 36, 5'9", 165lbs, HIV+, looking for another HIV+ man for physical relationship, possible emotional relationship. You: aged 30-45, no heavy or effeminate men.  
**12/25 @2023**

**OPEN MINDED**  
Gay or Bi male, 35-50, Ht/Wt proportionate, wanted by 46 yo Bi Male, 5'9", 170, B/Bi, free spirited, likes outdoors, movies, and adventure. Serious only.  
**1/29 @2049**

### NICE BOTTOM MAN!!

Looking for GWM or GHM for fun time, possible LTR. GWM 44 here to please man from 18-50. Looks not important, it's what is inside that counts. Give me ATRY, you won't be sorry!!  
**1/1 @2027**

### NOVICE MASTER

Beginner seeking compatible bottom to explore the S/M scene, 60 BiWM Bear, #200, rural. Into C/B/T, light bondage, and role playing. Like small build (will consider all), uncut a plus.  
**12/25 @2017**

### 40+ CLUB

Life after 40, gay social group for men 40-50. Meet quality people not into bar scene for friends, companions, dates, romance, group activities (non-sexual). A group with many interests.  
**12/25 @2014**

### SINGLE LATIN MALE

32, 5'7", 175, Br. Hair, Bl. Eyes, seeks a mentor who is established and knows how to spoil a sexy man. Happy Holidays!  
**1/29 @2050**

### CONVERSAR EN ESPANOL

Gente Gay interesada en reunirse en grupo amigable para practicar el español y conocer a nuevos amigos, llama  
**1/1 @2024**

### OLDER MAN WANTED

I'm 30 yrs. old, 6', brn hair, blue eyes, smooth body. You must be educated and in need of young men to get physical with.  
**1/1 @2025**

### MUST SELL

1948 Italian hardtop, one owner. Many extras including body by gym, heavy-duty suspension and drivetrain, fur carpeting, leather & stainless. Clean and lean.  
**1/15 @2034**

### SEEKING FUN GUY

GWM seeks sensuous and affectionate GM who enjoys being touched, handled, loved, massaged and pleased by another man. I'm 51, 5'8", 175lbs, brn?blue, beard, HIV -.  
**1/15 @2036**

### READY, WILLING, WAITING

GHM, 40, 5'8", 170 lbs, top. You, GWM/GHM, 30-50, bottom, who enjoys more than a quickie. Your place or mine, midtown, flexible hours. Safe Only. Let's give each other what feels good.  
**1/15 @2037**

### LESBIANS SEEK LESBIANS

**"WE'VE GOT TO STOP MEETING LIKE THIS."**

Single bars? Blind dates? Place a free ad in the personals. And Start meeting like this. Call 1-900-896-2748. tfn

### DR. LAURA FAN

If you have character, courage and conscience, I would like to meet you. I am blonde, 40+, feminine lady. We can share our love of the outdoors, animals, dancing, home and each other. Dreams can come true.  
**1/29 @2052**

### FRIENDS FIRST

SGWF, 5'7", soft butch with blue eyes, great personality, is seeking a classy, outgoing SGF who is emotionally and clinically stable. ND, smoking OK.  
**1/1 @2030**

### SEEKING SPECIAL FRIEND

Sixty something, enthusiastic, energetic with varied interests. Love honesty, openness, loyalty, spirituality and non superficiality.  
**1/29 @2043**

### 89-143

When and can we by any chance take this obvious love further into the stars? It's your move.  
**1/15 @2038**

### SUPER SOFT BUTCH

Do you believe simplicity is beautiful? Poetry & candles roses W/A full figured sweetie? You: same or femmer, 21-28 non-smoker. Me: 22, 5'2", Brn Hr, Brn Eyes, Femm inside!!! Let's talk!  
**1/1 @2026**

### SEEKING LESBIANS

54 y.o. MWF seeking to meet any woman who would enjoy sharing a relationship with me. Brown hair, Brown eyes, 5'0", HIV- first time seeking woman, has permission by husband. Lets meet soon. Smoke, HID, NIA, 150 lbs. I'm for real.  
**12/25 @2016**

### LOOKING TO MEET

G/W Butch, Soft Butch womyn between 35-45 for friendship possibly more. 5'6" or taller. Capricorn, Taurus A+ but not required. Must be emotionally and financially stable. You must love life, spontaneous outings, ocean, mountains, animals. No Bi's, Femmes, Freaks, Co-dependents. ND/NS/LA. **1/29 @2048**

### DYKE CHARMING

Looking for fun dates, I am 42 GBF soft butch happy healthy successful and ready to make your dreams come true. Since this is my ad I get to ask for everything I want. You are beautiful sweet smart sexy wealthy healthy strong athletic sincere motivated funny tan fabulous cook. You can sing dance and tell jokes all at the same time. If any of these adjectives describe you or you know what an adjective is, call today.  
**1/1 @2031**

### SCORPIOS ONLY

Beautiful, playful, feminine tomboy (long br. hair, 5'8", 135 lbs) seeks strong, loving, Scorpio counterpart for unforgettable encounters. You must be a GWF, fit, 5'6"+, clever, in control, into the mysterious and not afraid of fire. Your soul will open to me.  
**12/25 @2018**

### WANTED POLYFIDELITY RELATIONSHIP

GWF looking for latino lesbians who would be interested in polyfidelity relationship. No Males. No overweight women, I'm overweight, looking for ages 25-45. I love butch femmes and butches. Me 31y.o.  
**12/25 @2019**

### PASSIONATE BUTCHES WANTED

GWF looking for dates. I love latino lesbians 35-45. Disease free. I love butches and very passionate. I'm 31 femme 2 butch. Lets meet, date and be passionate together. No males, No commitments involved.  
**12/25 @2021**

### LONELY AND FRUSTRATED

GWF wants latino lesbian. Sm. tops. I'm a bottom whose lovely and frustrated. I'm overweight and losing weight. You be butch, very cute, 35-50. Me I'm 31 dark, hair and very passionate, you be too, No Males.  
**12/25 @2020**

### JUST FRIENDS

#### I SAW YOU

Lunch @ Taco Loco. Tuesday 10/21. You: Pinkish T-shirt, blue jeans, short brownish hair. Me: Blue polo, khakis, glasses, dk. hair & bike helmet. Wanna catch a movie or something?  
**1/1 @2028**

### NEED A FRIEND?

Someone to talk to, kick back with, share videos, relieve anxieties, fill some of those lonely times. This mature, hassel free, un-inhibited, non-judgmental, versatile, 5'9", Bi/Wm, WLTm you. Guys & Gals 18+, Black A+ but not required.  
**1/1 @2029**

### THANK

Christopher, I'm glad we met, your a special man. I'm fond of you. Friends? Gary  
**12/25 @2022**

### Bi-Encounters

#### SEEKING BISEXUAL MALES

MWM Bi clean shaven, 6'1", 200 #, HIV-, enjoy contact, massage, honest open, quiet times. Could be bottom or top, well endowed. Lets meet soon. 42 y.o. hairy all over.  
**12/25 @2015**

# HUGE

## HOLIDAY SAVINGS!

Colt  
Dirk Yates  
Mustang  
Falcon  
Buckshot  
Jocks

PRICES STARTING AT \$14.95  
HURRY! LIMITED STOCK!  
80% SAVINGS THROUGHOUT

**GAY VIDEO MARKDOWNS!**

VISA MasterCard ATM

Videos • Toys • Magazines • Leather • CD-ROMs • No-Deposit Rentals

**Goldies #1**  
201 N. 12th St.  
(N. 12th & B Sts.)  
447-5860  
OPEN 24 HRS.

**Goldies #2**  
2138 Del Paso  
(Del Paso & Oakmont)  
922-0103  
OPEN 24 HRS.

**Goldies Outlet**  
1800 Del Paso  
(Del Paso & Oxford)  
920-8659  
TIL MIDNIGHT

## MGW/FREE VOICE PERSONALS

**DEADLINE:** 20th for first issue, 8th for fifteen issue

By fax: 916.441.6422 • By mail or in person: 1725 L Street., Sacramento, CA 95814 • email: info@mgwnews.com

**1**

### Check a category:

- ☐ Men Seeking Men ☐ Lesbians Seeking Lesbians  
☐ Couples Seeking Couples ☐ Just Friends  
☐ I Saw You ☐ Bi Encounters/Variations

**2**

### Please print your ad here:

7-word minimum for all classified ads.  
Headlines are FREE!

**3**

### Payments:

MGW for all ads up to 40 words..... **FREE!**

words @ 30¢ each..... \$

Headline..... **FREE!**

Subtotal..... \$

Multiply subtotal by issues..... **Total**

Make checks payable to MGW Newspapers. Do not send cash

**4**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (W) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT:** Include full name, address & daytime phone number. MGW will not accept your ad without phone numbers for verification. MGW will not accept your ad without this information; it will be kept strictly confidential.

### Suggestions

- A "word" is any group of letters or number surrounded by spaces. For a term containing a hyphen (-) or a slash(/), count 2 words if the term exceeds 8 characters (including the hyphen or slash).
- Do not write your ad only in capital letters.

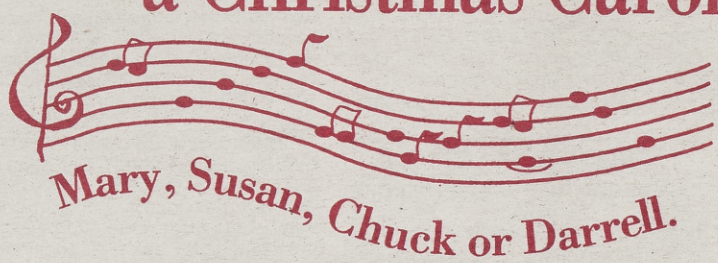
### Policies

- All MGW/DGW ads get a **FREE** number. (Sorry, no personal telephone numbers, addresses or post office box numbers.)
- No ads accepted containing explicit sexual references or crude language.
- \$10 service charge assessed on refunds for cancelled ads.
- We reserve the right to abbreviate, edit, categorize, or refuse ads submitted for publication.
- MGW Voice Personals are intended for adults seeking a rom-antic relationship. Sexually oriented ads will appear in DGW only.

**MGW**  
MOM... GUESS WHAT! NEWSPAPER



## Find yourself a Christmas Carol...



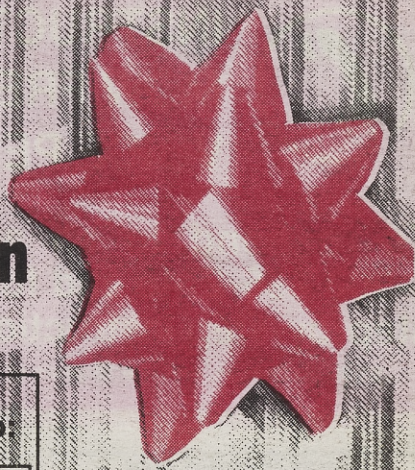
There's nothing like  
spending the holidays with  
people you care about – your  
family, your friends,  
**someone special.** Place a free  
personal ad and with our  
new features, we can  
introduce you to even more  
people who are just  
your type.

**To place an instant FREE  
voice personal ad, call**

**1-900-896-2748**

## Holiday Gift Idea

### MGW Gift Subscription



I'd like to send a  
Gift Subscription To

Name on Gift Card

Address

City

State

Zip

Name on Gift Card

Address

City

State

Zip

FROM:

Name on Gift Card

Address

City

State

Zip

1 year (24 issues) ..... \$30  
1 year in a bag ..... \$50

☐ My Renewal \$  
☐ Additional Gifts x \$30 \$  
☐ Please send me Gift Cards  
☐ Payment of \$ enclosed

**MGW**  
MOM... GUESS WHAT! NEWSPAPER

**Special Offer**  
1 FREE Subscription  
with every 3 paid

1725 L Street • Sacramento, CA 95815

**Voicemail  
Personals!**



# Dick Meets Tom

**Meet Hot Local  
Guys Tonight!**

**Sacramento**

**916-489-2300**

**Stockton/Modesto**

**209-473-5959**

**Access Code: 9111**

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CONNECTION®**

**record, listen &  
respond to ads**

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